

**Eric Friedli - comments re lighting at Magnuson**

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**From:** "Kim Gittere" <kgittere@attbi.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/23/2002 7:55 PM  
**Subject:** comments re lighting at Magnuson

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I live in the View Ridge neighborhood. During the lighting demonstration with only a limited number of lights the illumination affected our home.

I support the building of the soccer fields, however, do not support their lighting.

The DSEI recommendation states virtually no homes will be affected. I was a home affected by the lighting of the evening sky above the trial field.

Thank you Kim Gittere Abson MD and Michael Scupine

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L&G2

CDH/EP

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Jean L. Alexander  
6656 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

SEATTLE PARKS & RECREATION  
SUPERINTENDENT  
FEB 26 2002

February 25, 2002

Kenneth Bounds  
Superintendent  
Parks and Recreation  
100 Dexter Avenue North  
Seattle, WA 98109

**Re: Sand Point Magnuson Park**

Dear Superintendent Bounds:

Having just received a property tax bill for over five thousand dollars, I am acutely aware of the premium I am paying for enjoying a beautiful, peaceful view. I wish I felt that the impact I have upon what happens to that view would be commensurate with this premium. I feel like a "voice crying in the wilderness," with the uncomfortable feeling that I will soon become a voice crying in an 'industrial park.'

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AES1

The fact that the Parks Department constructed an environmental impact statement on the proposed Sand Point Magnuson Park development showed that they had concern for what such features as a large number of lighted playing fields would have on the neighborhood. This raised my hopes. The gross underestimation in the statement of the negative impact of lights, noise and traffic on the surrounding neighborhoods and on the wildlife in the park dashed them again.

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Anyone witnessing the lighting demonstration from View Ridge as I did would realize how much greater the negative impact would be than the study would suggest, especially when there would be not two but eighty of these glaringly bright lights. I wonder if the writers of the statement tried to see the lighting demonstration from viewpoints other than those of lighting theory.

I have tried to take the cooperative position that a reasonable number of playing fields would benefit young people and that, though I would personally prefer unlighted fields, the full cut-off lighting, which was the middle light in the demonstrations, would perhaps be acceptable. I have also asked for lighting on only a few days a week, in the early hours of the evening and only as needed.

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I have the uncomfortable feeling, however, that my voice is being drowned out by the more forceful and uncompromising voices of organized sports leagues and that Magnuson Park and other public lands are being essentially privatized and neighborhoods disrupted to benefit

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REC2

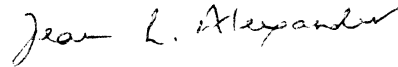
this sector of the community. I also have the sense that once playing fields are put into place, the investment will be justified by having them in constant use, a thrifty move but not one to warm the hearts of the afflicted neighbors.

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I think that the Parks Department needs to have a moratorium on the lighting of the playing fields until there is some fair estimation and resolution of the problems of their neighborhood impact.

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L&G2

Sincerely yours,



Jean L. Alexander

JLA:kja

cc: Mayor Greg Nickels  
Eric Friedli  
City Council

Eric Friedli  
Planning & Operations Director  
Sand Point Magnuson Park  
Dept. of Parks and Recreation  
7400 Sand Pt. Way NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

Dear Mr Friedli :

The public hearing for the DEIS for Magnuson Park took place 13 days before I received notice of it.

Despite several years of trying to make planners understand that the off-leash dog area needs to be left as it is, there was no mention of it on the DEIS. We cannot be appeased by some muddy square set aside for this purpose. There is no other park in the city having off-leash status in which both owner and dog can get exercise walking along a path. I am happy to have dogs segregated by fencing from b.y.d. resting areas, but not at the expense of my own exercise with my dogs.

All of your plan descriptions seem to include a lagoon which would produce so much silt in its creation that we might as well forget the fishery in this area. Ten years from now it could benefit the fishery, but there is a critical period here where we cannot allow the destruction of critical gene pool now. That means leave it alone.

The very worst ideas are two-fold and I cannot choose which is worst. Creation of stagnant pools is perhaps the worst. Have you called Greenlake in the fall since it was cut off from proper drainage? The runoff from acres of artificial turf breaking down over time is a great big question. What sort of chemicals are

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produced as artificial turf degrades? Certainly runoff from it must not go directly into the lake without treatment to remove toxic chemicals. Use of artificial turf could also produce a financial drain on the city due to the increased rate of athletic injuries & their resultant lawsuits.

In summary:

- 1) Leave the off-leash area as it is (including 50' of water access).
- 2) Leave the Park natural as much as possible, within the framework of multiple use.
- 3) Don't spend our money for smelly stagnant ponds.
- 4) Remember all the species you harm or displace with your "improvements".
- 5) We prefer ground-dwelling birds to salamanders & s/n.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Anderson

5740 34th Ave NE

Seattle, WA 98105-2323

3822 NE 97 St.  
Seattle, Wa. 98115

Feb. 26, 2002

Project Director  
Magnuson Pk., Seattle Wa.

Comment on S.P. Magnuson Pk. 2002 Plan-Impact Statement

Dear Sir,

The Army Corps of Engineers (about 1916) did a superb job lowering Lake Washington 8 feet so as to connect perfectly with Puget Sound, via the government Locks.

One result was the addition of a quality view parcel of land to the present day Magnuson Park roughly 600 ft by 600 ft. in size. The parcel had been under Lake Washington for thousands of years. Today this parcel of view land is just a few feet North of the large Boat Launch Ramp. Also it is some 900 ft. south from the Bathing Beach facilities.

The City's new plan appears to dredge out or dig out a giant inlet within this choice parcel of land, submerging it under Lake Washington destroying 3 or 4 acres of prime view land forever. Why should the City of Seattle take fine view land sitting 2 to 6 feet above Lk. Washington and just submerge it back to where it came from in 1916? It is hoped that the Corps of Engineers and also the State will study this far out venture.

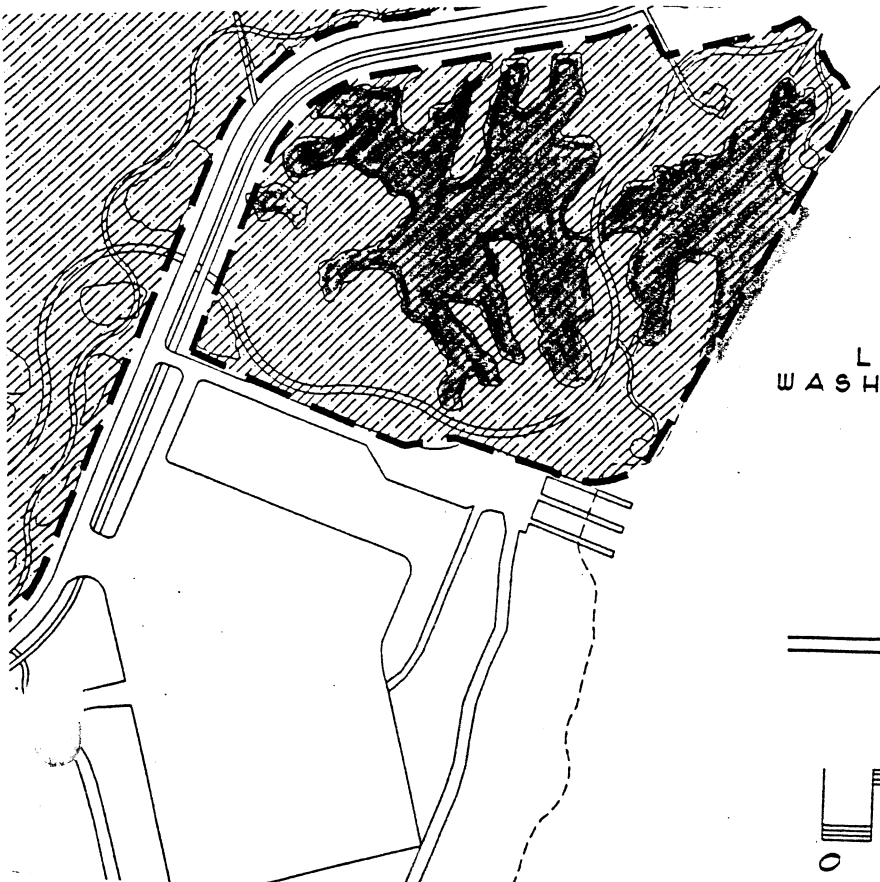
Also, about 900 ft. SSE of the Jr. League Children's Play Area, there is one of Wash. State's finest wet lands. In 1895 the USGS mapped this spot and designated it "Marsh". Today after installing and removing the Sand Point Runways, this area is wet land in winter and summer. The City plans of all things to spend roughly \$2,000,000. installing Sportfield #8 and #9 right in the heart of this rare wet land. Why? Are there no restrictions on how the city operates?

Sincerely,

*Ed Brady*  
Ed Brady

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PD6

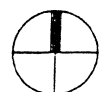
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WET7



LAKE  
WASHINGTON

## WETLAND/HABITAT COMPLEX

PROPOSED ACTION



February 26, 2002

To Whom It May Concern:

We oppose filling in the existing wetland communities of Sand Point in order to build sports fields. We therefore support the "no action" alternative.

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S/O4

We have the following questions concerning the environmental impact of the other alternatives:

- 1) If the sport fields are created, as in the "proposed action" and in the "lesser capacity" alternatives, what would the mitigation be for the net loss of existing wetlands? Is there any evidence that filling in extensive wetlands and creating a smaller "wetlands complex" is a net gain in habitat when there would be an overall loss in acreage of wild habitat? We think not.

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WET2

Furthermore, it has been reported that 90% of created wetlands in King County have failed to function as designed. What provision is there in the DEIS for monitoring of function and for correction of the problem(s) if function is not successful?

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WET1

- 2) What will be the environmental impact on the lake bottom and all that lives there (animal and vegetable matter)? Currently, wintering ducks such as Bufflehead, Common Goldeneye, Greater and Lesser Scaup dive to the lake bottom to feed everyday. The Greater Scaup flock numbers in the hundreds. What will the effect of run-off from the ball fields into the lake be on the matter living on the lake bottom? Has there been ANY attempt to study this before such a dramatic change is effected? What exists in run-off from aging artificial turf and where is it addressed in the DEIS? What exists in run-off from natural turf which is fertilized and where is that addressed in the DEIS? There will also be run-off from the parking lots. What provision has been made for maintenance of the swales where the run-off goes, or for monitoring of accumulation of non-biodegradable toxics in the swales?

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WDLF6

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WTR4

- 3) What is the time frame for completion of each phase of the wetlands complex? What contingencies will be made for funding for each phase? Where is this spelled out in the DEIS? Starting dates are shown but no completion dates. There is no contingency plan based on availability of different levels of funding over time.

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PD1

- 4) Where has it been established that there will be enough use of the sports fields to justify their creation? ("justify" in terms of the cost to the environment, cost to the quality of life for the neighborhood and cost to the tax payer. The membership in the sports leagues is in the thousands but the population of Seattle is in the hundreds of thousands. The users of the sports fields will come and go but the neighbors of the sports fields, also numbering in the thousands, will be subjected every night to the effects of light, noise, traffic and trash.)

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SEPA3

- 5) What is the 40-50 year plan? If the sports fields are not in use in 40 years, is there a plan to remove them and restore the area to wetlands? When we look back 40 years,

we don't see the fad for organized sports in suburban America which exists now. Given that the change in American behavior in the next 40 years could be as dramatic as it has been in the past 40 years, has any thought been given to preparing for a possible return to wildness...or once gone, will the wildness be lost forever?

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SEPA3  
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- 6) What becomes of the artificial turf when it is worn out? Will it be carted to a landfill or recycled? That needs to be addressed in the EIS.

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PD5

We have the following concerns re. the creation of a sports field complex at Sand Point:

- 1) We enjoy Magnuson Park's vast wild acreage which supports the livelihood of over 150 species of birds, including a pair of Red-tailed Hawks which need the acreage of wet wild fields to survive. Undeveloped land provides for stopovers for migrating birds along the north-south flyway running through Seattle; land along Lake Washington is valuable for migrating birds, and undeveloped land is as precious as it is rare. Undeveloped public land in Seattle is becoming increasingly rare; undeveloped land has recreational as well as ecological value.
- 2) Seattle is known for the natural beauty of its setting, not for its presence or absence of sports fields. Ruining the landscape near the lake by building sports fields and erecting lamp-posts would be tantamount to criminal.
- 3) Lighting the sports fields and parking lots would be a waste of energy at a time when we as citizens of the city have been asked to cut back on energy consumption. A city government which asks citizens to cut back, but which lights sports fields for a greedy minority of its populace is hypocritical.
- 4) Lighting the proposed sports complex at Sand Point will create not only a massive eyesore for the residents of View Ridge, but also for the residents of Kirkland and the surrounding area who will look across the lake into a mass of lights for hours every evening.

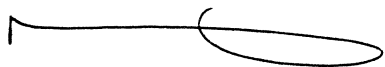
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ENR1

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AES1

*Janice A. Bragg*



Janice Bragg  
Robert Kirby  
6235 NE Princeton Way  
Seattle WA 98115

Eric Friedli

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**From:** "bob brown" <bob0brown@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/28/2002 10:31 PM  
**CC:** <rabrown@atmos.washington.edu>

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Eric Friedli  
Director of Operations and Planning  
Sand Point Magnuson Park  
7400 Sand Point Way NE  
Seattle, Washington 98115

**Re: Comments on Drainage, Wetland/Habitat Complex and Sports Fields/Courts Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)**

Dear Eric,

I have some comments on the proposed sports field lighting proposed for Sand Point Park. Although I haven't had the time to research the EIS, a quick reading left me with the impression that a complete environmental impact hasn't been done.

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SEPA4

The deterioration in the nighttime environment has many aspects. Myriad fauna and flora are tuned to a day/night cycle that would be destroyed by a mass of lighting such as that proposed. The wetlands concept was a desire to create a natural area. The lighting, so close, is unnatural. It will destroy numerous natural systems.

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WDLF1

People too are tuned to a day/night cycle. There are probably as many people who enjoy the night --- the stars, the lights across the lake (very dim), the moon rising over the lake etc. --- as there are who enjoy playing soccer at night. Anytime you destroy a natural environment to create an artificial one, deep research is required to avoid unforeseen ramifications. It is not beyond imagination that one of these deteriorations in the local environment could lead to the removal of the lights even after they're installed. I recently visited Sun Valley/Ketchum in Idaho. They have passed a law forbidding lights that produce any glare in the night sky. People can feel quite strongly about this.

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L&G2

I represented the interests of the soccer associations for twenty years from their inception. I know the need for fields. But I get the impression that even they are surprised by the total success of their requests for more fields. We would certainly go from famine to feast in one big leap. What a luxury to have a first class lighted rugby field for about ten teams in Seattle? I don't think that it is worth the price of alienating the entire neighborhood of the park. We play soccer beyond high school for about twenty years, a few hours a week, but we enjoy nature, the views, the quiet and the nighttime ambience, the plants and animals for a lifetime. It isn't wise or just to sacrifice the environment that is appreciated by so many for the almost commercial enterprise that satisfies a relatively smaller number.

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REC2

Sincerely,

R.A. Brown

## Comments on Draft EIS for Sand Point Athletic Field Illumination

Peter Brundrett & Rozenn Lemaitre  
7343 57<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98115

February 26, 2002

We have attended public hearings on the Seattle Parks and Recreation/City of Seattle plans to illuminate eleven athletic fields at Sand Point Magnuson Park. We observed the athletic field lighting demonstrations and experienced the light glare at our residence. We feel that the Draft EIS is not an adequate evaluation of the impacts to the surrounding neighborhoods of a large athletic field complex at SPMP.

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SEPA4

Our comments and concerns on the Parks Department's plan for athletic fields are in the following areas:

- Light Trespass
- Energy Use
- Traffic Impact
- Traffic Safety
- Playfield Noise
- Impact of Artificial Illumination
- SPMP Proposed Project Budget

Our general comments on the Parks Department's plan is that we are *strongly opposed* to building an athletic field complex at SPMP similar in size and scope to that of Marymore Park in Redmond, as suggested by the current plan. We live in the middle of the View Ridge hill above Magnuson Park. We did not select our neighborhood because we wanted to live near a large athletic field complex. We did not select a view overlooking brightly lit artificial turf sports fields. The lighted athletic field complex will be a major detriment to our neighborhood and ruin a beautiful Pacific Northwest vista.

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S/O4

### Light Trespass

From our home on 57<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, north of 70<sup>th</sup> Ave, we observed a high level of glare from the demonstration lights during both demonstration events. I also observed the glare at multiple locations on the hillside north of 70<sup>th</sup> Ave. We are located above the park, and well above the level of the playing fields. The glare created very bright lights shining directly into every east-facing room in our house. This was from only two sets of 1000-watt demonstration lights at the north end of the parking area. Extrapolating this demonstration to roughly 500-600 lights indicates the athletic field illumination would have enormous impact.

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L&G2

We strongly disagree with the following statement in the Draft EIS document, section 3.9.2.1:

*Virtually all of the single-family residential area west of Sand Point Way is located west of the Burke-Gilman Trail and above elevation 125 feet, and would have limited or no exposure to direct glare from the sports field lights.*

There are many homes in View Ridge with large east-facing windows designed to appreciate the Pacific Northwest view. Those large windows will be exposed to unprecedented amount of direct and reflective glare from over 250, 1000-watt lights directed toward the west.

The alarming amount of glare from the Lower Woodland Park lighted sports fields on neighbors of that park highlights the irresponsibility of Seattle Parks and Recreation/City of Seattle in controlling glare impacts. The Seattle Parks has done nothing to mitigate light glare for passing motorists and nearby homes. The glare from Lower Woodland Park should be fixed! The example shows the bad will on the part of the Parks department and the City, and lack of respect for people's private homes and neighborhoods. The same lack of respect is documented in the Draft EIS and SPMP sports field plans.

### **Electricity Use**

The Seattle Parks and Recreation plan shows blatant disregard for Governor Locke's request in 2001 for Washington energy conservation. Responsible energy use is not a passing fad based on the weather.

The estimated 645,000 kWh demand for the athletic field lights in section 3.5.2.1 of DEIS consumes the bulk of the entire 1 million kWh savings through energy conservation for the year 2001! (See the Seattle City Light's home page for highlight of their energy conservation goals at <http://cityofseattle.net/light/> .)

Why would anyone in Seattle bother to consider the Seattle City Light's Energy Conservation Guidelines? (See <http://cityofseattle.net/light/conserves/> ) There will be hundreds of thousands of kilowatts glowing to enable people to play athletic games from 7-11 pm. Will all Seattle City Light customers receive another electricity rate hike over time due to the increased power needs for nighttime athletic use for this park and potentially other lighted sports fields planned by the City?

There is no reference in the DEIS document, section 3.5.2.1 for the statement of Seattle City Light aggregate power capacity or consumption. The DEIS document does not identify competing alternate power requirements in Seattle for the estimated 645,000 kWh over the expected lifetime of the park.

### **Traffic Impact**

Our observations as residents in the View Ridge neighborhood for almost 14 years are the following:

- Evening traffic between 4:30 – 7:00pm on Montlake Blvd and NE 45<sup>th</sup> St near the University Village is already very busy in the evening. Trying to do simple tasks

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like picking up groceries or young children in daycare within 3 miles of our residential neighborhoods already is stressful driving.

- Sand Point Way gets busier every year. Lots of people are in the last few miles of an already long commute home into the residential neighborhoods fed by this traffic artery. Add another couple of hundred cars every hour with people trying to get to an athletic game at SPMP and there will be more traffic problems. And for many people, this is after a stressful commute on the local freeways.
- There is very limited direct access from I-5 to SPMP. There are no major through arteries from I-5 to Sand Point Way. The residential neighborhood streets of 65<sup>th</sup>, 70<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup>, and Sand Point Way north of SPMP cannot safely support hundreds of vehicles going to a large athletic park by people approaching from North King County.

I am not a traffic expert, but we, along with our neighbors, have to live with the traffic problems of our area. A large athletic field complex needs high volume traffic arteries for people to get there. You do not have the roads available to get lots of people to eleven new athletic fields at SPMP in the evening. It seems to me, you want to locate a large athletic field complex in an area like the parking lot south of Northgate Mall. Quick, easy access from I-5 (when I-5 traffic is moving), and near a major bus transfer station.

The DEIS traffic analysis seems to minimize the negative impacts of traffic to support a large athletic field complex at SPMP. Section 3.12.2 describing Existing Conditions identifies most of the neighborhood streets (65<sup>th</sup>, 70<sup>th</sup>, 75<sup>th</sup>, 95<sup>th</sup>) as “collector arterials”. This may be the correct technical term for vehicle traffic analysis. These are also currently “quiet neighborhood streets”, with adjacent small playground parks for young children and local elementary neighborhood schools.

The DEIS traffic analysis has many inconsistencies and potential errors.

Figure 3.12-2 indicates current peak PM traffic at NE 70<sup>th</sup> and 35<sup>th</sup> Ave NE at 15 trips eastbound and 5 trips westbound. Figure 3.12-6 shows identical traffic volumes at the same intersection with the Proposed Action in 2007. However, Figure 3.12-4 shows Project Trip Distribution at that intersection of roughly 15-30% of vehicle trips headed westbound on 70<sup>th</sup>. Figure 3.12-5 indicates additional 93 vehicles turning left at NE 70<sup>th</sup> and Sand Point Way.

Table 3.12-6 attempts to summarize Traffic Volume Impacts at peak PM hour at nearby intersections. The difference of vehicle trips between 2007 No-build and 2007 Proposed Action do not account for the total Weekday Peak Hour Trip Generation Estimates from Table 3.12-5. Somehow, 520 vehicles have to enter the SPMP either at the 65<sup>th</sup> St or the 74<sup>th</sup> St entrance.

Traffic headed to athletic field events will not be evenly distributed over the 60 minutes of the peak PM hour. Everyone will try to get to a game 10 minutes before the start. A significant traffic problem will be the NE 45<sup>th</sup> St/Sand Point Way/Union Bay Pl/35<sup>th</sup> Ave intersection. Figures 3.12-2 and 3.12-6 indicate an increase during the peak PM hour of combined 258 vehicles headed eastbound on Sand Point Way and 35<sup>th</sup> Ave NE.

Informal observations show the backup around 5 pm of 40-50 vehicles per traffic light cycle eastbound on 45<sup>th</sup> stretches from the intersection back behind the entrance to Safeway on the North side of 45<sup>th</sup>. Add another 50-100 vehicles and the backup will extend from the intersection all the way back to the light at the bottom of the 45<sup>th</sup> St hill.

The additional 100+ vehicles/hour traveling eastbound NE 45th and Sand Point Way headed to the proposed sports field complex SPMP (based on 3.12.4.4 Trip Distribution) will add to the backup starting from the Union Bay/35<sup>th</sup> Ave intersection through the following control lights:

- The pedestrian crosswalk at NE 45<sup>th</sup> Ave and 36<sup>th</sup> Ave
- 45<sup>th</sup> Ave and Sand Point Way near 37<sup>th</sup> Ave
- Sand Point Way entrance to Children's hospital at NE 50<sup>th</sup> Street
- Sand Point Way and 55<sup>th</sup> St/Princeton (At Sand Point Village)
- Sand Point Way and Windermere Rd.
- Sand Point Way and NE 65th

For vehicle passengers these backups and delays are cumulative, frustrating, and stressful. The vehicle backup on Sand Point Way affects access to many small local businesses. The traffic problem makes access to parking for those businesses serving nearby residents much harder. Pedestrians are confronted with much higher volumes of mostly young aggressive drivers late for sports games.

### **Traffic Safety**

Traffic safety is not adequately addressed in the DEIS document.

There is no discussion of vehicle accidents at the intersection of Sand Point Way and the entrance to Children's Hospital.

There is no discussion of potential accidents caused by increased traffic on Sand Point Way where there are vehicles crossing traffic turning left into neighborhood side streets without the benefit of traffic lights. (For example, entering or leaving the Windermere neighborhood.)

There is no discussion of potential safety issues where the Burke-Gillman Trail crosses NE 65<sup>th</sup> St and NE 70<sup>th</sup> St. During peak PM hours, there are bicycle commuters using the trail in increasing numbers, as well as pedestrians enjoying an evening walk. Many of the pedestrians are elderly and young children. We have concerns that significantly increased vehicle traffic traveling eastbound on 65<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> going downhill (a very steep downhill grade on 70<sup>th</sup>) will hit crossing cyclists. Another aggravation to cyclists is the vehicle backup at proposed new traffic light at NE 70<sup>th</sup> and Sand Point Way blocking the crossing.

There is no discussion of pedestrian safety issues for Metro bus commuters using routes 74, 75 who have to cross Sand Point Way during peak hours at poorly lighted crossings.

## Playfield Noise

Sound from SPMP activities carries up into the hillside in the View Ridge neighborhood. For example, sound from the Sunday afternoon music concerts echoes off our back yard wall on 57<sup>th</sup> Ave. Cheering from ball games and loudspeakers can clearly be heard on the hillside. For five months of the year, household windows and doors are open. We are very concerned by the tremendous background noise that will be generated by eleven sports playfields. The trees in the parking areas surrounding the athletic fields will not provide any noise buffer for sound that will pass directly to the houses above the park. Noise level increases from vehicle traffic on Sand Point Way and neighborhood streets should be analyzed in more detail.

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NOI1

## Impacts of Artificial illumination

Illuminating eleven artificial turf athletic fields until 11 pm every night creates a large plain of bright green plastic before a beautiful backdrop of Lake Washington and the Cascade Mountains. In the week prior to the athletic field light demonstration, there was a full moon rising above the mountains with a reflection off Lake Washington. This is the beauty of natural light that happens frequently. Lighted artificial turf for eleven playing fields will ruin one of the best residential views in the Northwest shared by many Seattle city residents for over 50 years. The Seattle Parks and Recreation and City of Seattle should not destroy one of the best neighborhood views in Seattle while responding to demands to provide the amenities for nighttime athletics.

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AES1

Even though land is available at SPMP, it does not mean the site is appropriate for a large athletic complex with nighttime illumination. Even though land is available at SPMP, it does not mean that it is appropriate or responsible to bring traffic and lighting glare impacts to reduce the quality of life for nearby neighborhoods to provide nighttime athletics. Even though land is available at SPMP, it does not mean that the City should use that land to increase the number of lighted fields in Seattle by 60%, from 18 current fields. The City should consider alternative locations with much smaller installations and reduced impacts.

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SEPA1

## SPMP Proposed Project Budget

A final comment about the project budget: We supported the Parks and Recreation property tax levy. We think it is great to see the improvements to neighborhood parks all over the city of Seattle. Many, many people enjoy the parks. Recent news about King County not being able to re-open many of the county parks due to budget limitations is very unfortunate.

We think that it is fiscally irresponsible for the Seattle Parks and Recreation and Seattle City Council to initiate planning for a \$40+ million athletic field project that goes way beyond the voter approved budget for improving our city parks. As a voter, I did not intend that levy to be a "down payment". The voters approved a huge amount of resources for Parks that must be used responsibly. The proposed project is estimated somewhere in the range of \$30 million over the budget allocated to SPMP. Please work with the funds the voters provided.

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SEPA11



## DEIS Hearing Comment Form

If you have comments to share with us about the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, you can write them below and leave them with us. You can also fold and mail this comment sheet to the address printed on the reverse side. Eric Friedli's email address is: [eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us](mailto:eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us)

- ① The "do-nothing" alternative allows for daylight use of playgrounds, protects the wetlands, and minimizes impact on the community. This clearly is the "preferred" alternative. The alternative selection process is fatally flawed. 1  
SEPA3
- ② DPR has absolutely no authority to promulgate a light/glare "standard."  $\frac{1}{2}$  foot candle is absolutely bogus, unsupported, and without legitimacy. Only the City Council has this authority. 2  
L&G1
- ② 775 kw is a whole bunch of power. What kind of logical nonsense is 1/100 of 1 percent of city use? That much power could meet the needs of over 80 homes, <sup>Seattle's</sup> 3  
ENR1
- ③ The hours of operation will surely violate sound/noise ordinance. It's impossible to model this since the DEIS is devoid of quantitative information. 4  
NOI2

Please mail your comments to us by February 28th, 2001.

Leslie Carpenter  
6616 Parkpoint Way NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

Alan Carpenter  
6616 Parkpoint Way NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

**Eric Friedli - Comments on the Sand Point EIS**

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**From:** <Acarpntr@aol.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/28/2002 9:27 PM  
**Subject:** Comments on the Sand Point EIS

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I submitted handwritten comments at the last public airing of complaints about this travesty, but I will amplify upon them here. I also realize that the greater public of Seattle has not a snowball's chance in hell of stopping this railroad job. Further, once those lights are installed, the playfield advocates will immediately begin to push for later and later use, well-beyond eleven p.m.

1. The preferred alternative is fatally flawed in that it serves only a single interest while the do-nothing alternative services the play-field advocates during daylight hours, the neighborhood, and the wetlands ALL THE TIME. The selection of preferred alternative demonstrates once again that the Sand Point staff of the Parks Department will enter into ex parte discussions with non-public entities to craft strategies and "public policy" that is demonstrably not in the greater public interest.

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SEPA2

2. No off-site alternatives are analyzed in accordance with law.

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SEPA1

3. The light and glare criterion of 0.5 foot-candle has no basis in ordinance or law. Prove this is protective of my environment. I live across the street from the Park. Setting of environmental standards is the exclusive domain of the City Council, and the Parks Department has absolutely NO AUTHORITY to adopt this bogus "standard."

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L&G1

4. You must quantify noise sources generated by the various alternatives and utilize readily available noise propagation models to demonstrate that the alternatives will comply with the City of Seattle Noise Ordinance, and NOT CREATE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT on my environment. I live across the street from the park, not 150 feet up the hill.

8  
NOI2

5. This proposed use of the park is inconsistent with the terms of the property transfer from the United States Navy to the City of Seattle. The federal Environmental Impact Statement and the entire property transfer process did not envision this land use and therefore the Navy must reanalyze its transfer and whether the City is abiding by the contract and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

9  
SEPA12

6. The energy use of the lights at the fields is way way way beyond insignificant. How many gallons of oil, how many equivalent natural gas-heated homes, how many dead salmon will we require to be able to kick a rubber ball around at eleven p.m. in the December rain? Quantify that.

10  
ENR1

Regards,

Alan Carpenter  
6616 Parkpoint Way NE  
Seattle, WA 98115  
Acarpntr@aol.com



## DEIS Hearing Comment Form

If you have comments to share with us about the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, you can write them below and leave them with us. You can also fold and mail this comment sheet to the address printed on the reverse side. Eric Friedli's email address is: [eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us](mailto:eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us)

As an uphill neighbor of the proposed playfields, and the mother of 2 schoolage children, I hope I can speak a voice of reason and compromise on the issue of lighting the fields.

The issues seem clear—

There is a high demand from youth & adults for playfields

AND

it has been clearly established by environmental scientists & reputable organizations that artificially prolonging daylight has a significant and negative effect on all forms of wildlife—plants, birds, trees, salmon, bugs, etc.

AND

there are few places left in the city to enjoy the night sky, the stars, moon, lake & we can not forget the value of this in our busy lives. Many people come to Magnuson during celestial events to enjoy nature in relative darkness

AND

The newly located transition from homeless housing residents deserve better than lights & noise 7 days a week till 11pm, especially when many have young kids trying to sleep or adults needing to get up early for work.

Let's go for a compromise—

Ideas:

Phase I — Start with 3-4 lit fields (using the least invasive lighting technically available) with lights off by 9pm during the school year and 10pm during the summer.

After in place for 6 months, have a committee composed of neighbors, sports enthusiasts, and park officials review how things are going and determine any needed modifications or next steps at that time.

This way everyone can feel like they are being considered & we don't create something at a huge cost & effort that has huge negative impacts.

Please mail your comments to us by **February 28th, 2001.**

Diane Chetrick

Diane Chetrick  
5601 NE 77th St  
Seattle WA 98115

206 524-7272  
[dianeck@juno.com](mailto:dianeck@juno.com)

1  
SEPA3

## Eric Friedli - Magnuson Park Lighting

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**From:** "Kris Cone" <kriscone@attbi.com>  
**To:** <mayors.office@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <margaret.pageler@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <jim.compton@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <richard.conlin@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <jan.drago@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <nick.licata@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <peter.steinbrueck@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <richard.mciver@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <judy.nicastro@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <heidi.wills@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <ken.bounds@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <cdavid.hughbanks@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <inde52@aol.com>  
**Date:** 2/3/2002 8:38 AM  
**Subject:** Magnuson Park Lighting

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Hi,

I would like to express my strong disagreement with the proposed lighting of 11 sports fields and the creation of 15 total sports fields at Magnuson Park. I have lived in the View Ridge area for almost 4 years, and have enjoyed the great views, quite environment, and natural surroundings. Our home values reflect, in part, all of these attributes. The proposed creation and lighting of these sports field will threaten and decrease home values and intangible attributes for all with a view of Magnuson Park. This not only includes residents in the View Ridge, Hawthorne Hills or Inverness areas that have direct or indirect views of the park (or the potential light glow), but also includes residents all around the lake, such as Kirkland, Juanita, Hunts Point, and others. The glow and light that would emanate from the fields, **until 11 pm nightly**, will create such a large light field that views for all will be greatly impacted. I equate it to the landing strip in Close Encounters of the Third Kind...not something I want to look at year round, every night. Would you?

I am all for public parks and having sports fields. However, they should have their right place. Putting some 80 light poles with 640 luminaries where thousands of tax paying residents will have a direct view, and in many cases, right through their curtains and bedrooms, is not acceptable. It would be like building Safeco Field on the banks of Lake Washington or putting light beacons on top of Mount Rainer for all to see. The natural setting of the park is what makes it special. The grasses and other natural growing's let animals and people thrive. What would be the environmental impact of not only the dramatic change in lighting conditions for the animals that live there, but also the run-off from the fields directly into Lake Washington? The addition of 15 new sports fields is bound to bring mud, pesticides, fertilizers and other harmful chemicals that will have a devastating impact on the Salmon and other fish in our waters since the park is right on Lake Washington. In addition, the thousands of additional cars (some 2,260 daily) will bring oil residue, up and beyond what already is there with all the park activity. What kind of study has been conducted around that? Finally, noise pollution is a big concern. Sound travels right up the hill and can be easily heard by all. Having thousands of people in the area until 11-11:30 at night will have an impact on the serenity of the area.

Bottom line, the fields and lighting are not good for a park so close to the lake and so impacting the the views and property values of so MANY people. The park offers an opportunity to capitalize on its natural surroundings and beauty...we should work towards maximizing that, not minimizing its potential and the environment for a great many people. Just look at the great job you have done with Golden Gardens as an example.

Therefore, I respectfully request your support in **NOT** allowing the lighting of the sports fields at Magnuson Park and seek your support in finding a better use for the park.

Thank you.

Kristopher & Dr. Patricia Cone

View Ridge Residents

file://C:\TEMP\GW\00001.HTM

2/7/2002

1  
AES1

2  
L&G2

3  
WDLF1

4  
WTR4

5  
NOI1

6  
S/O4

COPY

6036 Princeton Avenue N.E.  
Seattle, WA 98115-7764

Greg Nickels, Mayor  
City of Seattle  
1100 Municipal Bldg.  
600 - 4th Avenue  
Seattle WA 98104

February 6, 2002

Dear Mayor Nickels:

**Hawthorne Hills residents do not deserve yet another assault on our neighborhood. Do not install eleven sports fields with high-intensity lighting at Magnuson Park!**

**1. None of the roads that approach Magnuson Park, particularly from the west, can withstand increased traffic.**

Bear in mind that the major approach to the entrance to Magnuson Park -- Northeast 65th Street -- is not a major east-west arterial. **N.E. 65th Street above Sand Point is NOT an arterial road at all.** At the top of the hill above Sand Point, N.E. 65th Street narrows to a two-lane curving road that winds its way through our neighborhood with three sharp angle turns before descending to Sand Point Way.

To be more precise, the two lanes of N.E. 65th Street above Sand Point traverse three sharp angles before continuing downhill to Magnuson Park. Eastbound cars that attempt to speed on N.E. 65th Street through our neighborhood have posed a dangerous threat to residents, to drivers, and to property.

Specifically, when drivers have attempted to travel at arterial speeds through the curves at the top of N.E. 65th street, cars have crashed into substantial-sized retaining walls of homes, through landscaped gardens, and up onto lawns.

In recent years, a car missed the second curve in the road and crashed into a neighbor's dining room. That resident had been working outside just minutes before the accident, kneeling in her garden at the very spot of impact.

Evidence of other impacts and near misses along N.E. 65th St. has been clearly visible in the past in damaged or missing kerbs and in scuffed retaining walls.

Remember that N.E. 65th Street is not a through-way or major east-west arterial; it becomes a winding neighborhood street above Sand Point. The current fragile and curving road design barely coexists with the present traffic. Adding more traffic threatens lives and irreparably harms the neighborhood.

**2. Lighting as described in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and additional traffic would forever change the neighborhood.**

1  
TRAN1

Seattle Parks Department cannot seriously be thinking of putting 11 brightly-lighted sports fields into this neighborhood, given the difficulty in approaching Magnuson Park, and given the impact of the lighting on the neighborhood.

First, and most important, **NO** manipulation of high-intensity lighting can keep **ambient** glare out of neighborhood skies. Ambient glare would completely transform the outlook from all of View Ridge, Hawthorne Hills, and from the contiguous Sand Point, Inverness, Windemere, and University Housing neighborhoods. Glare of that magnitude would not be tolerable. Glare from even 2 fields would be intolerable; glare from 11 fields is unimaginable and unacceptable.

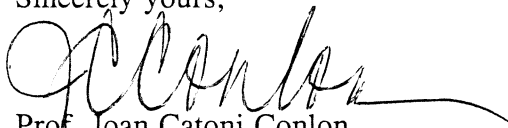
Second, the DEIS failure to deal with the impact of the lighting on the Sand Point Way condominiums is disappointing, since the current plan would turn those condominium homes into garish 'fun-forest' dwellings with no privacy or quiet. This represents betrayal of those property owners by the very city to which they pay taxes.

Third, the Parks Department claim to put 'full-cut-off' lighting on 'as many fields as possible' cannot be taken seriously. Such language does not even indicate good faith, and could allow for abuse of neighborhood expectations in the future and for reversing promises made to the neighborhood.

My remarks represent frustration shared by neighbors that have worked with several consecutive city governments, with changing members of a civil-service bureaucracy, and with various city departments that continually try to force unacceptable change on our neighborhood. We chose to live here and pay taxes on these properties because of the very neighborhood attributes that the city keeps wanting to change.

This latest idea is unacceptable. Please stop trying to ruin our neighborhood!

Sincerely yours,



Prof. Joan Catoni Conlon  
6036 Princeton Avenue N.E.  
Seattle, WA 98115-7764

2  
L&G2

3  
S/O4

## Eric Friedli - Magnuson Park DEIS Comments

**From:** "Ben Cutler" <ben.cutler@pactechllc.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 1/27/2002 4:49 PM  
**Subject:** Magnuson Park DEIS Comments

Dear Mr. Friedli:

I recently read with great dismay the Magnuson Park Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). My wife and I selected the Hawthorne Hills neighborhood as our home some years ago because of its relative convenience while retaining the peace and quiet of a suburban neighborhood complete with varied wildlife not found in many part of Seattle. The DEIS, even while attempting to downplay some of our concerns, makes clear that the character of our neighborhood will be drastically changed for the worse.

1  
S/O4

I am writing to you to express my very deep opposition to the proposed changes at Magnuson, a park we have enjoyed in its current form for many years, and to ask you to clarify your position on the plans for Magnuson Park. Below, I express some of my concerns.

First, we are concerned about the impact on the view over Lake Washington. We live in a neighborhood where a substantial percentage of property values are due to the spectacular views. Despite an expensive top-to-bottom remodel of our house when we first moved in, nearly half our property value is due to the view from the small lot on which our home sits. The DEIS claims that houses such as ours would have "limited or no exposure to direct glare from the sports fields lights."

2  
AES1

Regardless of how the DEIS describes it, the impact on our view will be dramatic and negative. Last November, a lighting demonstration with a limited number of lights was conducted. Those illuminated structures dominated the skyline, blocking the lights across Lake Washington and condemning any attempt to see the nighttime sky or enjoy the simple peace of nighttime darkness. And during the daytime, we'll be relegated to viewing the eastside through a picket fence of tall metal poles capped with unsightly clusters of lights. If we wanted this kind of view, we could have chosen to live in downtown Seattle or the International District near the playing fields. This is not acceptable. We enjoy the view and we enjoy the sense of nighttime both of which would be lost under both the Proposed Action and Lesser-Capacity Alternative described in the DEIS.

3  
L&G2

Second, while we live in the city, we have an incredible diversity of wildlife both within our neighborhood and down at the Park. Both stand to be adversely affected. From what I understand, the DEIS chooses to ignore this impact, stating simply that the impact is of uncertain magnitude and even suggesting in places that the diversity will grow. While I recognize the value of improving wildlife habitat, I also fully understand the impact of high intensity lights illuminating vast stretches of park and artificial surfaces for playing fields and parking lots that do not contribute to the habitat of wildlife. Just near our house we have resident Racoons, a wide variety of birds ranging from crows to hummingbirds, and several species of butterfly. I have absolutely no doubt that this diversity will be negatively impacted by the lighting and traffic changes anticipated by the plan. I can only imagine the consequences on wildlife at the park itself.

4  
WDLF1

Third, we enjoy the peace and quiet of our neighborhood. Despite the fact

I67  
P25  
SEPA76  
SEPA6

that we are nearly ten blocks from Sandpoint Way, the sounds of vehicles can still be heard at our home. Needless to say, the anticipated increase in traffic both at the Park and on surrounding arterials such as NE 65th Street and Sandpoint Way will be quite noticable and negatively impact our quality of life.

Finally, at a time when the regional economy is pressed from many directions at once, I question the wisdom of a project of the scope described in the DEIS.

Thank you for your attention.

Best regards,

Ben Cutler

February 6, 2002

Dear Mr. Friedli,

I am a Seattle native, a believer in neighborhoods, the mother of a small child and I vote.

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed sports field development at Magnuson Park. I attended the February 4 public hearing and added my voice to the unanimous opposition expressed by fellow citizens, Audubon Society, MESA, the View Ridge Community Council, and North East Seattle Community Council.

After taking considerable time to read the DEIS and I found it completely failed to address the neighborhood environment in which I live.

Contrary to the DEIS, there will be significant environmental impacts if the full sport field enhancement and lighting plan is implemented.

1. The proposed action will eliminate--forever-- any resemblance to a naturalistic environment within Magnuson Park. We, our children and future generations will lose the opportunity for learning about and demonstrating responsible wildlife stewardship--a precious and rare opportunity in this urban setting.
2. The noise associated with activity scheduled until 11 PM every night of the year, will significantly impact our living environment. Presently, we can hear the noise even from just one game played in the park--but that is daytime noise, and I accept that. Now, with all these lit fields, we will have noise -human and automobile traffic, until 11 PM. I want my young son to be able to sleep at night. I want to be able to sleep at night - and to at least have the option to open a window in the summer time.
3. The traffic in neighborhood streets - our intersections and especially crosswalks such as at the Burke-Gilman Trail now become dangerous thoroughways as drivers unfamiliar with the area rush in and out of the park-- oblivious as they pass through our residential community.
4. The DEIS also fails to take into account the additional traffic that will be generated by major projects currently under construction adjacent to

1  
WDLF1

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NOI1

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TRAN1

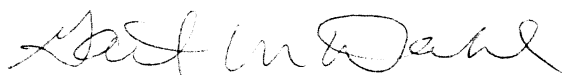
the park. 399 new student housing units being constructed on Radford Court and the new Children's Hospital building at 70<sup>th</sup> and Sand Point Way will have increased traffic at all critical intersections near the park. The Children's site alone will increase traffic by an estimated 400 trips daily on Sand Point Way.

3  
TRAN1  
(cont'd)

5. It is wrong to place industrial level lighting on towering light poles within a residential community. Because of our topography, our homes are effectively the bleachers for these fields. My neighborhood looks into the lights. The DEIS significantly understated the effect of the lights as anyone who attended the lighting demonstration and ventured onto the hillside can attest
6. The cumulative impact of pending and proposed projects within the park also have not been evaluated by the DEIS even though requests to address this specific issue were made at previous public meetings.
7. No attempts was made to evaluate alternative athletic field sites.
8. The city has already expended considerable resources into providing transitional housing within the park. These residents will be significantly impacted by the glare of intense, even harmful lighting levels and be subjected to sleep disturbing noise 365 days a year.

4  
L&G25  
SEPA56  
SEPA17  
L&G28  
NOI1

Magnuson Park is an inappropriate choice for the proposed action. The impact of the project would be devastating to the neighbors to the park, surrounding communities and all those seeking a small piece of tranquility within the city.



Gail M. Dahl  
6903 57 NE  
Seattle WA 98115

**Eric Friedli - Sand Point Magnuson Park DEIS**

**From:** Peter Dahl <dahl@alum.mit.edu>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/9/2002 10:40 PM  
**Subject:** Sand Point Magnuson Park DEIS

February 8, 2002

Dear Mr Friedli:

I am a long-time resident of View Ridge, a parent, and a voter. I have invested considerable time reading the full Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS).

Contrary to the conclusions of the DEIS, the proposed sports field plan for Sand Point Magnuson Park (SPMP) with its massive scale, poses a significant environmental impact by forcing on the neighborhood and wildlife, a profoundly detrimental change in the nighttime environment.

Manifestly false statements are made in the DEIS, such as:

"Virtually all of single family residential area...above elevation 125 ft would have limited or no exposure to direct glare..." (p. 3-107). Of course, genuine observations including photographs made during the two lighting demonstrations conducted thus far contradict this statement. One such photograph was shown at the DEIS hearing conducted on February 4th. Besides the clear impact of reduced property values, the DEIS ignores the significant impact of lighting on the transitional housing residents and the residents of View Ridge. This plan transforms SPMP into a huge regional sports field complex, with nighttime operations until 11 PM clearly intended primarily to benefit of adults.

Many neighbors sharing my views have responded to the DEIS, insofar as how it fails to address the significant impact on people and wildlife, caused by the massive scale of illumination, increased traffic, and noise. To keep my letter to a reasonable length, I shall restrict additional comments to the issue of noise. The DEIS states:

1. "Additional users and extended hours ...result in more frequent park use noise that might be carried beyond project site. Operational noise levels would not be high, would be abated somewhat by physical factors...and would not likely be significant in off-site residential areas" (P 1-18).
2. (regarding sport field operation) "These types of activities also would not generate particularly high noise levels at the source, and the noise carried off-site might well be lower than background noise levels..." (P3-57)
3. "Noise measurements taken for the Sand Point Reuse Project indicated an average day/night noise level of 69.7 dBA at a location on Sand Point Way near NE 80th " (P 3-55)

Statements 1 and 2 are not true. Noise levels produced by 11 fields illuminated until 11 PM will be high, will not be abated, and will produce a significant environmental impact on both the off-site residential area and the closer transitional housing area. Statement 3, based on single archival data value, might well be true, but it is very misleading.

Noise measurements I made on February 2nd, at the corner of NE 69th and 57th AVE between the hours of 3 PM and 4 PM, average 45 dBA, and measurements made at the same location between 9 PM and 10 PM, average 42 dBA.

The values of 42 dBA to 45 dBA represent a low background noise level that complies with EPA guidelines. This low noise level is of great value and health benefit to the View Ridge neighborhood. Low background noise is a valuable asset to the View Ridge neighborhood, as well as a health benefit its residents.

On occasion, however, the noise environment is seriously degraded by events originating from the SPMP. There is a well documented record of noise complaints registered with the City. This record is therefore evidence of a relation between park-generated noise, and the noise environment of people living near by. The DEIS ignores this documented relation.

Two archival noise level values given in the DEIS represent the only effort to quantify the noise budget associated with the proposed plan. The reported value of 69.7 dBA, appears to be brought out in the DEIS in order to argue that the View Ridge neighborhood is dominated by traffic noise. As shown by the above measurements, this is not the case.

But, since View Ridge also overlooks SPMP, there are direct line-of-site paths between the residential areas and the proposed sports field area. This is why today many people living in View Ridge can hear the noise from participants and spectators at sporting events in SPMP. At present, sleep disturbance and other environmental noise impacts are limited because such noise occurs only during daytime activity and it originates from just a few fields. This will not be the case with the proposed plan, calling for expansion to 11 lighted fields illuminated until 11 PM every day of the year plus lighted basketball courts.

1  
L&G2

2  
NOI1

The usual way to assess community response to noise impact is to conduct a survey of the community (interviews plus actual measurements). The DEIS undertakes zero effort to assess community response to noise.

Besides the citizens of View Ridge, there will be a significant environmental impact from the proposed plan on residents of the transitional housing in SPMP. Anyone standing in the vicinity of the east boundary of the SPMP transitional housing can attest to the fact that presently background noise levels are low in this area. This low-noise environment contributes to the health and well being of the people living there, who are also trying to build new lives. However, the east boundary of transitional housing will be only 200 to 300 feet from the west boundary of the proposed lighted sports field complex. When fully populated with spectators and players, the combined noise effect from all the fields can be a noise level in excess of 70 dBA just outside the homes of transitional housing residents. There will no doubt also be episodic noise events (scoring chants, victory celebrations, air horns, etc) resulting in even higher noise levels. This noise will occur every night of the year and it is unlikely to suddenly cease at 11PM. The EPA recommends that outside noise levels not exceed 55 dBA, in order to avoid or reduce sleep disturbance which can be particularly detrimental to the young and the elderly.

The sound level associated with SPMP nighttime sports activity will be somewhat lower for the View Ridge neighborhood to the west, but sound levels caused by the 500 to 1000 people on the fields will still be sufficient to induce sleep disturbance. Furthermore, cooling after sunset will cause sound that has initially traveled skyward to refract (or bend) downward and produce even higher sound levels on View Ridge. This well-known effect on sound propagation is completely ignored by the DEIS.

In summary, SPMP is an inappropriate location for a highly concentrated, illuminated regional sports field complex. Residents of on-site transitional housing and the off-site View Ridge community will be significantly impacted by light and noise pollution, and increased traffic. The DEIS fails to address these issues in serious manner.

Sincerely,

Peter H. Dahl, Ph.D.

2  
NOI1  
(cont'd)

5510 N.E. 70<sup>th</sup> Street  
Seattle WA 98115-6239  
February 5, 2002

Dear Mayor Nickels,  
Mr. Eric Friedli,  
Mr. Bounds,  
Mr. Hughbanks  
Members of the City Council,

I write in objection to the playing fields down at Sand Point / Magnuson Park. I think playing fields are great. I am very aware of the great pressure for more practice/field space in the Parks Department. I have gone to several fields in the past dropping off and picking up children and it was great this fall having all my children practicing at the same park. And it was also very convenient, as our house is in View Ridge.

1  
S/O4

I am not ignorant of some of the issues you are dealing with.

However I do STRONGLY OBJECT to all those big sports fields lights being on until 11pm.

I STRONGLY OBJECT to all those sports fields being developed at this site.

First city officials made low income housing at the park --- you brought families in transitions to live in this wonderful space. Why would you subject those families, most of them going through stressful lives, to all those lights. Darkness is peaceful and restful. Some of those children are up at 6 am for school buses. They need their sleep. Why would you make this lighting beat down on them in this housing? That is to say nothing of the extra noise, people and traffic that would disturb them.

2  
L&G2

The lighting test you conducted really showed how horrible the lights are you plan to use for all your sports fields. And we only had one or two of them. I can not imagine what 10 or 11 sets for the fields would be like. It would be horrible to look at. It would be like a shipyard at night.

The traffic is a big issue. Sand Point Way is a good access north and south. However I would never buy a house East of Sand Point Way. My parents lived in one of those neighborhoods before they died. The traffic is SO BAD trying to get across Sand Point Way in rush hour is crazy or suicidal. It is very heavy volume currently. It is ridiculous to add to this.

We live on 70<sup>th</sup> street. The East-West traffic pattern to this park dead ends at 75<sup>th</sup> and 55<sup>th</sup>. A small residential street turns onto 70<sup>th</sup> where there is an unlighted intersection. People barrel down the hill on 70<sup>th</sup> at breakneck speeds then the others come out of 55<sup>th</sup> to turn down the hill to Sand Point -- ANOTHER unlighted intersection. You are crazy to draw all these people to this park which is so hard to get to from 75 percent of the city. There IS NO good east-west route access.

3  
TRAN1

This is to say nothing of the increased volume. We have invested a lot into our house and this neighborhood. We would like to remain here. It is a wonderful family of neighbors we have come to know. More traffic means less contact with neighbors --- Try visiting with your neighbors when cars and trucks are barreling down your street. It makes for isolated households. We are trying to hold on to the relationships we have made by being out and about our properties.

We are a family with growing children. It would be great to remain in the city and have them go to the University of Washington. There is a great bus route that takes us to the Benaroya Hall and the University District. It would be sad to have the quality of life here diminish. We have made sacrifices by not moving to the Eastside. We still see great benefits living here in View Ridge. However as that quality of life goes down -- more traffic, more noise, less sense of belonging our ties weaken.

4  
SEPA7

This is supposed to be a quiet residential area. This is why we moved into this area to be in the city but have some wonderful natural surroundings – the Lake, mountains, and park land. Why do you intend to ruin it? These properties command high prices on the real estate market. This in turn gives the city coffers some good regular tax income. Those values will drop substantially thus reducing your revenues.

Please do not put those lights up. A few sports fields might be great. Please do not make this the sports field center of Seattle. There is not the roadway infrastructure to support it!

Yours, Mary-Thadia d'Hondt  
206-522-1029

**Eric Friedli - Sand Point/Magnuson Park Sports Field lighting**

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**From:** "Dwiggins, Pam /SEA" <PDwiggins@seattlemariners.com>  
**To:** "ken.bounds@ci.seattle.wa.us" <ken.bounds@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/1/2002 2:33 PM  
**Subject:** Sand Point/Magnuson Park Sports Field lighting  
**CC:** "eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us" <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "cdavid.hughbanks@ci.seattle.wa.us" <cdavid.hughbanks@ci.seattle.wa.us>

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I have been a resident of the View Ridge neighborhood for over 10 years. It's a neighborhood I have thoroughly enjoyed living in. I am extremely concerned about how the quality of life is going to change in our neighborhood with the proposed installation of lighting for 11 sports fields in Magnuson Park.

1  
SEPA7

I went to the lighting demonstration and was stunned at the impact of just 3 light poles. The thought of 80 poles with 600 plus lights on until 11:00pm at night is beyond comprehension. It would be just like living above SAFECO Field. Anyone who had a view would no longer have his or her nighttime view. The lights would obliterate our beautiful views of the stars and city lights across the lake.

2  
L&G2

And the lighting won't be the only impact on our neighborhood. I also have a real concern for increased traffic and noise - especially noise. I live up the hill on the west side of Sand Point Way on 58th N.E. Our neighborhood has already had a lot of experience with the noise that carries up from the NOAA base and the areas of the old Sand Point naval base that have been converted to public use.

For example, I frequently can hear car radios and even voices coming from those areas. If just individual voices can carry up the hillside into the neighborhood, just imagine the noise generated by lots of kids and adults playing baseball. Have you ever been to a quiet baseball game? And it is my understanding that we are talking about 11 sport fields that will have games going until 11:00 at night.

3  
NOI1

I and a number of other neighbors have, over the past couple of years, complained to the Parks Department about other noise issues at Sand Point:

- \* Noise coming from generators that ran for days (and nights) on end for various events held down at the hangars. (The generators were moved to the eastside of the hangars and it did solve that problem.)

- \* Noisy events held in the hangars on weekends (and into the evening). In those situations we had no one from the Parks Department to call since it was a weekend and Parks Department staff is not there. (When we have followed up with Parks Department staff on Monday about noise problems over the weekend they are always very apologetic but I know that they are also in the business of generating income from facilities which are very old and run down.)

I am certain that the people who use these sport fields are lobbying hard for the lights but those of us who live in the View Ridge neighborhood should be considered first and foremost.

Thank you for your consideration.

Pam Dwiggins

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2/1/2002

I oppose the current lighting proposal for the Sandpoint/Magnussen park due to the significant impact it will have on the View Ridge neighborhood with respect to noise, traffic, and glare. I read the excerpts from the DEIS document covering these issues and the people who conducted this study seem to think that there will be little or no impact to the neighborhood. Who are they kidding? I live in the View Ridge neighborhood and the increase in noise and traffic has already been significant since the old naval base was taken over by the Parks Department. I've already had to call down to the park offices on numerous occasions to complain about noise coming from generators and events being held at the park.

4  
NOI1

I also viewed last month's lighting demonstration that included 3 light poles with a total of 12 lights. The amount of "light pollution" just 3 poles produced was stunning. I can't even imagine the impact 80 light poles with 640,000 watts of light shining into our living rooms and bedrooms.

I'm aware that you are also being inundated with letters and e-mails from groups who want the 11 sports fields and want them lit until 11:00pm. I know that one of their arguments has to do with the fact that physical exercise is healthy for people – a fact that no one can or will argue. (I'm a firm believer in getting out and exercising and I go to the park on a regular basis to do so.)

One letter in particular that is circulating is from Ami Tsuchiya from the School of Public Health and Community Medicine, UW. She states that she is for the sport fields lit until 11:00pm because we all need to exercise more (again, a point no one would argue). She also includes her address (2810 NE 68th St, Seattle) which puts her over the hill from the park and in the Ravenna neighborhood. It's easy for her to say that she is for the sport fields because she won't have lights glaring into her living room or bedroom or noise that will keep her up at night. (The neighborhood most affected is on the hillside just above the park. The hillside acts as an amphitheater. I can literally here people's voices from in the park.)

5  
L&G2

Is it really necessary for the City to provide facilities for people to exercise until 11:00pm at night 365 nights a year? I obviously don't believe so. But I do think it's necessary for the City to help provide quiet, livable neighborhoods. Like many people, especially children, I happen to be in bed by 10:00pm so I can get up 7 hours later and go to work the next day. What I'm looking for is a good night's sleep – something I won't get if ball games and lights are on until 11:00pm. (Not to mention the fact that the lights may go off at 11:00pm but the traffic and people noise will probably go for another 45 minutes as part of the exiting process.)

I know that this is becoming a battle of e-mails and letters between those who want the fields and those who oppose the fields. Ideally I would like to see no sport fields and no lighting but I have a feeling that those of us living in the neighborhood above the park don't stand a chance. The Parks Department will just end up doing what they want to do.

6  
SEPA3

At a minimum I'd like to see a compromise. Having parks lit up until 11:00pm at night 365 days of the year seems excessive and very unfair to the neighborhood directly above the park. Wouldn't 9:00pm seem a little more reasonable?

And wouldn't fewer fields also seem fairer? We are a very densely populated city with very little open space. I love walking down to this park from my house. I enjoy the incredible setting and natural beauty. It would be a shame to just convert a huge portion to synthetic fields.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Pam Diggins  
View Ridge Resident

**Eric Friedli - Sand Point Sports Fields**

---

**From:** "Christian Eberhardt" <christian@microquill.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/12/2002 9:56 AM  
**Subject:** Sand Point Sports Fields  
**CC:** <Mayors.Office@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <dewey.potter@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <jim.compton@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <richard.conlin@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <jan.drago@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <nick.licata@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <richard.mciver@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <judy.nicastro@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <margaret.pageler@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <peter.steinbrueck@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <heidi.wills@ci.seattle.wa.us>

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Hi Eric -

My name is Christian Eberhardt and I am a Seattle resident and Board member for the Sand Point Community Housing Association.

While I am in favor of parks and recreation for the City of Seattle, I believe there was little or no consideration given the SPCHA in the EIS and overall planning for the Sand Point Sports Fields.

Increased traffic and noise and light pollution will profoundly and adversely impact our housing program. Consider for a moment: 80 poles, with 640 lights, many of them facing directly west, pouring light into our residents living rooms and bedrooms 365 days a year up until 11:00pm.

The EIS states that there would be little impact on the neighborhood -- in my opinion, that is just not true! It seems to me the EIS was drafted to justify the plan rather than analyze it.

I urge you to give full consideration to \*all\* the ramifications of such a plan before moving forward.

Thanks in advance -

Christian Eberhardt  
1718 31st Ave  
Seattle, WA 98122

1  
NOI1

2  
L&G2

3  
SEPA4

Kimberly Farley  
9425 17<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

February 24, 2002

Eric Friedli  
Planning and Operations Director  
Sand Point Magnuson Park  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
7400 Sand Point Way NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

Dear Mr. Friedli,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) *Sand Point Magnuson Park, Drainage, Wetland/Habitat Complex and Sports Fields/Courts Project, Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)*. Though I do not have a strong opinion as to whether the Proposed Action is the most appropriate use of the portion of the Sand Point Magnuson Park discussed, I am deeply concerned about the adequacy of this DEIS procedurally and substantively. In addition, because no real alternative to the Proposed Action is offered, it is impossible to feel that a real "choice" is being made.

1  
SEPA2

## NEPA AND THE CORPS AS FEDERAL LEAD AGENCY

The City's decision not to make this document a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)/SEPA DEIS concerns me. The Proposed Action would dig up, fill, and otherwise disturb nearly all of the 20.3 acres of wetlands known to be on the site, as well an undocumented number of acres of other wetlands. Since the DEIS admits that at least 20.3 acres of wetland will be disturbed and, therefore, the Corps of Engineers (Corps) will have to issue wetland permits, why isn't this a NEPA DEIS, and why isn't the Corps the lead Federal agency? A NEPA EIS is required for all major Federal actions. *See* 42 USC § 4332 (C). The NEPA regulations define "Major Federal action" to include "Projects [that] include actions approved by permit or other regulatory decision ..." 40 CFR 1508.18 (b)(4). Since the Corps is legally required to issue permits prior to disturbance of wetlands, this should be a NEPA/SEPA document and the Corps should be the lead Federal agency.

2  
SEPA13

## WHERE'S THE WETLAND DELINEATION?

The reason for the ambiguity in the actual amount of wetlands on the site is puzzling. The DEIS simply says "No wetland delineation was attempted on the interior acreage because of the totally random 'pattern' of wetland presence/absence across the site." (Page 3-15) This assertion makes little sense to me. SEPA Rules require that "[agencies] prepare EISs concurrently with and coordinated with environmental studies and related surveys that may be required for the proposals under other laws." WAC 197-11-402 (8). It is obvious that before

3  
WET2

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§404 permits can be issued by the Corps, a wetland delineation will have to be completed. In addition, in my view, the wetland delineation was essential to fully understanding and describing the impacts to the wetlands on the site. It should have been completed in conjunction with this DEIS.

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WET2  
(cont'd)

## WHERE'S THE BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT?

There is not enough information presented in the DEIS to adequately determine the effects of the alternatives on threatened and endangered species known to use the park habitat and habitat adjacent to the park.

Bald eagles are not even mentioned in the DEIS. Several regular users of the park have observed bald eagles with regularity. In addition, I have watched bald eagles soar above the Washington Park Arboretum, less than two miles away. Since bald eagles are not considered at all in the DEIS, the effects of increased noise, lighting, and use of the park on bald eagles has also not been considered.

Though the writers of the Wildlife section refer to information gathered from Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), there is nothing in the reference section that specifies what the information is. It is routine practice of project proponents to contact WDFW with the location of their site on a USGS map. Using this map, WDFW promptly provides the most updated information that indicates whether and what type of threatened, endangered, or species of concern are present on and near the site. Reference to this type of readily available information is not referenced in the DEIS. If this elementary step had been taken, the bald eagle would have been flagged as seasonal user of the park and/or area habitat.

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WDLF7

The document does mention that bull trout are currently present at the park: but that's it. The fact that bull trout is a threatened species is not even mentioned in the DEIS and it does not go into any detail as to the habitat requirements, life cycle or any other pertinent information about bull trout. Was this just an oversight? If not, what was the reason for leaving this information out? By not having any information with regard to bull trout in the DEIS, none of the alternatives can be evaluated for their effect on this threatened species.

The DEIS does note that the threatened chinook salmon are present and use the shoreline of the park. However, a meager two paragraphs is dedicated to the health, habitat requirements, and life cycle of this threatened species. The DEIS goes on to describe the "Fish Impacts of the Alternatives" (Section 3.4.2.2) in a little over two pages. This brief overview is clearly inadequate to address the impacts of the alternatives on the threatened species. The DEIS lumps the impacts of the Proposed Action and Lesser-Capacity alternatives into one section and states that the addition of a lagoon would provide habitat for a variety of native fish. There is no discussion of the other elements that will be added or what their effects would be. For example, the two action alternatives call for creation of overhanging woody vegetation and the addition of secluded habitat for waterfowl. Will these additions have an effect on the endangered fish? I would think so, but these likely effects are not discussed at all.

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All of my questions would have to be answered in a Biological Assessment (BA). So, where is the BA for this project? Has one been completed? If so, why was it not cited in the DEIS? If a BA has not been done, will it? If not, how can this be justified? The Endangered Species Act (ESA) clearly requires the preparation of such a document to ensure that "ecosystems upon which endangered species and threatened species depend may be conserved." 16 USC §1531 (b). A BA is to be prepared for a proposed action to identify the potential effects of the action on threatened or endangered species. *See* 16 USC §1536 (c)(1). In addition, the SEPA Rules require that "[agencies] shall prepare EISs concurrently with and coordinated with environmental studies and related surveys that may be required for the proposals under other laws." WAC 197-11-402 (8). Since a BA is clearly required prior to starting this action, why is this required effort not mentioned in the DEIS?

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WDLF7  
(cont'd)

## CONNECTED ACTIONS - SECTION 2.6 RELATION TO OTHER REVIEW AND DECISION PROCESSES

### Projects that should be Part of Action and No-Action Alternatives

To be compliant with SEPA, the actions discussed in the "Related to Other Review and Decision Processes" should be incorporated into the Action and No-Action alternatives. In determining the scope of a proposed action, the lead agency must determine whether there are connected actions that should be evaluated in the same SEPA document. Proposals or parts of proposals that are so closely related that they are, in effect, a single course of action must be treated in the same environmental document. Separating projects out for separate environmental evaluation thwarts the purpose of the environmental review by not allowing the decision makers or the public to review the total effects of an action.

This DEIS briefly describes several projects which are being evaluated separately and, therefore, are not discussed in detail. These projects are: the North Shore Recreation Area, the Community Garden, the Off-Leash Area, Promontory Point, Community Campus Uses, the Tennis Center, and the Boat Launch. All of these projects will be constructed within the park boundaries and are adjacent to or right in the middle of the area at issue in this DEIS. This arbitrary separation of projects will result in an environmental review that will underestimate the overall impacts of actions taken because they will be reviewed separately. The fact that there is no map in the DEIS that shows exactly where these projects are in relation to the Proposed Action is telling. It might become just too obvious that it is unjustifiable to separate these actions if one were to see the location of these projects all together on one map.

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SEPA5

In addition to the problem of underestimating impacts when a piecemeal approach is taken, the public is short changed when this is done. Though a member of the public might find time to locate, read, and comment on one environmental document, she is unlikely to be able to keep up with the seven-plus actions that will be advertised separately. Therefore, though she will be effected by every one of the actions separately proposed, she may never even hear about any or all of those that do not require an EIS.

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The tennis court removal and replacement project is probably the most egregious example of this. In fact, when reading the description of the Proposed Action and the Lesser Action alternative, the reader gets the sense that these actions are part of this project. The changes to the tennis courts is mentioned in a sentence that starts "Specifically, the proposal includes:" But the reader has to be on her toes; later, in bullets that follow, the DEIS says the tennis courts are "part of an adjacent project." (Page 2-7 as well as others.) Not only is this misleading, it cannot be allowed. The tennis courts are currently located in the center of the park. *The project plans include their removal.* So, do the action alternatives get to show a net benefit from the removal of the tennis court's impervious surfaces? Because the calculation of impervious surface is extremely general, one cannot tell. However, the presence of the tennis court's impervious surfaces is certainly included in the calculation of baseline impervious surface, that is, impervious surface currently on the site. (Page 3-7, "The impervious area includes ... paved tennis courts.") Because of the location of the tennis courts, the impacts of removal and replacement cannot be separated. What possible benefit is there to not including this project in this environmental review? If there is one, does it really outweigh the confusion caused by not having it in?

It is especially frustrating that the Off-Leash Area project is not included for environmental evaluation in this document. It was with great interest that I read that the Off-Leash Area project was broken up even further into two separate environmental documents! A SEPA checklist and determination of non-significance has been issued for the upland portion of the project; the City expects to complete environmental review for the shoreline portion of the project in the winter of this year. It seems quite obvious to me that this total project is directly connected to what happens with the rest of the park. In the Off-Leash project, the shoreline may be reconstructed so that when dogs play in the water, it won't create such a big plume of sediment that threatened fish cannot breath or migrate through. The shoreline in the Off-Leash Area project is connected to the shoreline described in this project. It is all part of the same park. The impacts should be summarized together, not separated to allow one project to move forward with less public scrutiny.

The way the DEIS deals with this issue is by briefly describing the effects of the Off-Leash Area in Section 3.4.2.3. Several paragraphs are dedicated to the cumulative impacts to fish habitat. It specifically mentions the dog Off-Leash Area where dogs would be allowed to use a part of the park to gain access to the water. However, this is as far as the DEIS goes. It does not explain how much worse off the fish will be because of the added effects of this Off-Leash project. In addition, the effects are not added to the effects of the alternatives.

It seems obvious that all of the projects cited in the Related to Other Review and Decision Processes section should be added actions to this DEIS, thereby allowing all of the impacts to the environment to be summed up and reviewed at one time, in one place.

### What the Section Should Include

This section does not include any projects that are proposed or ongoing in the vicinity of the site as is required by SEPA. The actual purpose of this section is to describe projects that are

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SEPA5  
(cont'd)

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close in proximity, but not related to the action. One of the reasons for identifying these projects is to prepare the foundation for discussion of Secondary and Cumulative Impacts of these with the alternatives proposed on the various resources. Examples of projects that would be appropriate for this section include a discussion of the large number of new student housing units currently being constructed just south of the park, on the other side of NE 65<sup>th</sup> Street, other added housing in the neighborhood, and any permits that had been issued for other commercial enterprises in the area. A discussion of the overall plan for Seattle Parks would be appropriate as well as a discussion of the Joint Athletic Fields Development Plan. The DEIS does not mention any of these in this section and is, therefore, inadequate.

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SEPA5  
(cont'd)

### Other Issues

The fate of the old Commissary building is mentioned, but is not part of the action or no action alternatives, nor is it described in the related actions section. The environmental impacts of the removal of this structure should be mentioned somewhere. In addition, there is currently literally hundreds of tons of fill piled up in a wetland located to the east of the Commissary building which is not mentioned in the DEIS anywhere. (Though I recognize that the DEIS does not categorize that area as a wetland, I challenge that determination. Since no wetland delineation has been done, I suggest that it very likely is and would like to view the documentation that was prepared to show that it was not.) The use of the park as a temporary stockpile site should be mentioned since it has obvious environmental consequences. (While visiting a few days ago, it was raining and I watched as sediment-laden water ran over the roadway to who knows where.)

6  
WET27  
WTR4

## AGENCY AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

### Lack of Agency Participation

There appears have been little to no early participation in this DEIS by resource agencies. SEPA states that "prior to making any detailed statement, the responsible official shall consult with and obtain the comments of any public agency which has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved." RCW 43.21C.030 (d). One paragraph of a very brief "chapter" (a total of three pages) titled "4. Consultation and Coordination", purports to detail the project proponent's coordination with agencies with jurisdiction over the project. Unfortunately, the paragraph, which is titled "4.2 Agency/Organization Consultation", does not mention a single word about agency consultation. This omission is significant since the project will need significant permits before moving forward: an individual 404 permit will have to be obtained from the Corps, biological assessments will have to be submitted to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), a Hydraulic Project Approval will have to be obtained WDFW, a 401 Water Quality Certification will have to be obtained from the Department of Ecology, as well as others. What the paragraph does say is that the project proponent has contacted the community about the project and has established a project advisory team make up of experts in wetland and habitat systems, sports field designers, and

8  
SEPA14

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community representatives. Okay, but what about coordination with the federal and state resource experts as required by SEPA and as is suggested by the title of the paragraph?

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SEPA14  
(cont'd)

### Lack of Public Participation

Though the DEIS states that an advisory team was put together that included members of the public, there is very little evidence in the DEIS that shows a real effort was made to solicit public input. In fact, what was documented was the failure to get public input.

Chapter 4 describes four chances the public had to give input to the project. On August 24, 2001, a scoping document was distributed to the public to inform them of two meetings that would be held to collect comments from them. The DEIS states that the meetings were "lightly attended"; two people showed up at the first meeting, and eight attended the second. Obviously, however the notices were "distributed" to the public, it was terribly ineffective. Such low turn out suggests that people were not adequately put on notice of the opportunity to comment. Significantly, there is no mention of how many comments were received my mail. Perhaps there were none to mention.

9  
SEPA15

The next opportunity the public had to give the project proponent input was during two meetings held at Sand Point. No description was given as to what type of notice was given before these meetings but 25 people attended the meeting on October 8, 2001 and 50 attended the meeting on October 22, 2001. While this level of attendance is less abysmal than the attendance of 2 or 8 people, it still does not reflect a reasonable number of interested public given the vast number of people that will be affected by the project. If the public knew about the project they would have attended meetings and would have commented.

### BASELINE CONDITIONS

The baseline conditions are not adequately described. Since the existing conditions provide essentially the "zero mark" on the measuring stick that is used to compare the impacts of the alternatives, it is essential that it be described well. Otherwise, the rest of the DEIS is chaos:

On page 2-2, and in other locations throughout the document, the park is referred to as containing 352 acres, 153 of which is the subject of this project proposal. However, the boundaries of the proposed project are never accurately depicted on a map of the whole park with the boundaries of the park itself accurately depicted. This confuses the reader from the start. The DEIS does not differentiate well the differences between the "project site" and the whole park.

10  
SEPA16

The existing impervious surface is roughly portrayed for the "project site" on pages 2-6 and 2-7. Does this summary include the boat launch area, and the parking lot associated with the boat launch? Why are the other areas of the park not included in the calculation of impervious surfaces? If it is not possible for the reader to understand the baseline conditions that are being set out, how can they be accurately measured against?

11  
WTR5

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Page 2-4 discusses the existing conditions at the site. Unfortunately, the map that is provided to help orient the reader to these uses is inadequate (Figure 2.1-2). According to other maps provided earlier in the document, it does not even cover the whole park. In addition, there is mention of a historic district of more than 20 naval station structures, but none are called out on the map. Other features cited in the list on page 2-4 are also missing: the Off-Leash Area, Promontory Point, and picnic areas. I can almost figure out which of the lines on the map are walking trails, and which are roads, but not quite. Finally, though I can guess from its depiction, the location of the boat launch on the shoreline is also missing.

12  
SEPA16

Why are there no specific, accurate drawings of the baseline conditions at the park? Why aren't there figures depicting the alternatives with a shadow of the outlines of the current conditions? It's very difficult to compare the alternatives with the existing conditions without accurate and well-designed map information.

## ALTERNATIVES

The alternatives presented in the DEIS do not reflect a reasonable range of alternatives as required by SEPA. SEPA expressly requires that an EIS contain a detailed discussion of alternatives to the proposed action. RCW 43.21C. 030. The required discussion of alternatives is of major importance because it provides a basis for a reasoned decision among alternatives having differing environmental impacts. *Weyerhaeuser v. Pierce County*, 124 Wn.2d 26, 38 (1994). The SEPA Rules state that "[an] EIS shall provide impartial discussion of environmental impacts and shall inform decision makers and the public of reasonable alternatives," and that "[it] shall be used by agency officials... to plan actions and make decisions." WAC 197-11-400 (2) and (4). The SEPA Rules provide guidance concerning the scope of alternatives to be considered by explaining that "reasonable alternatives" are those that could "feasibly attain or approximate a proposal's objectives, but at a lower environmental cost or decreased level of environmental degradation." WAC 197-11-440 (5)(b).

An alternative does not become infeasible simply because the project proponent does not like it. Similarly, just because there is a potential conflict with local law or policy does not render an alternative unreasonable. 40 CFR 1502.14 (c); Forty Questions, No. 2(b).

13  
SEPA2

So, how did the project proponent come up with the alternatives? It appears to this reader that the proponent put together a plan it liked, put a great deal of thought into it, and became invested in it. Later, when it realized an EIS would be required, it came up with an "alternative" that looked almost like the proposal, but without all of its benefits, and with a little less impacts. However, SEPA does not permit this type of behavior. The SEPA Rules state that the "EISs shall serve as the means of assessing the environmental impacts of proposed agency action, rather than justifying decisions already made." WAC 197-11-402 (10), Emphasis added.

The Lesser-Use Alternative doesn't look as though it was thought out at all. Was there a different goal set out for the Lesser-Use alternative? It appears that, if there was a goal, it was to make the park less usable for both humans and wildlife. This is a rather silly objective for an

alternative. The way to craft a true alternative to the proposed action would be to create the best alternative possible that achieves goals set forth in Physical Development Management Plan. The goals stated there were:

- Expand recreational opportunities
- Enhance open space and natural areas
- Improve accessibility
- Reuse historic resources

In this case, since the proponents of the project arbitrarily left out the historic buildings as a separate project, we can focus on the other goals. The current proposal focuses on expansion of play fields. The proponents have tried to appease the environmentalists by also adding an expansion of a wetland complex. The correlation between the expansion of play fields to the expansion of the wetlands can be seen in the Lower-Use Alternative as well.

There are many viable alternatives that could be suggested that would present a different approach while still achieving the goals stated above. There are different recreational opportunities that could be expanded rather than play fields. For example, creating a kayaking center, or an area that attracts a variety of bird life to increase bird-watching opportunities. Several viable alternatives were set out in the Alternatives Considered but Rejected section of the document and are discussed below.

## ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED

### On-Site Alternatives

Each of the Alternatives considered but rejected were taken out of the DEIS analysis for impermissible reasons. The first three, Expanded Sports Field Capacity, Expanded Wetland/Habitat Area, and Natural Surfaces and Lighting were taken out before environmental analysis was conducted. In each case the reason cited for not carrying the alternatives into the DEIS for an environmental evaluation was because the City Council didn't want to. This thwarts the entire purpose of SEPA which is to provide information relevant to the alternatives to allow decision makers and the public to make informed decisions! The correct way to limit the scope of the alternatives to be considered in an DEIS is (1) compile the full range of alternatives suggested by the public and resource agencies during scoping; (2) go through the compiled suggestions and remove those that are fatally flawed (the plan would never be permitted, infeasible engineering, etc.); (3) set out screening criteria, crafted from the goals and objectives identified in the Purpose and Need, (4) prepare brief plans, fleshing out the ideas that made the first cut, turning them into alternatives; then (5) apply the criteria and see which of the alternatives appear to be in the running. The SEPA rules require that an agency "[utilize] a systematic, interdisciplinary approach...in decision making." RCW 43.21C.030. Since there is no indication in the body of this DEIS of the way in which the two "alternatives" were chosen other than by some politicians saying they simply didn't want the

13  
SEPA2  
(cont'd)14  
SEPA3

February 26, 2002

others, this decision was clearly arbitrary and capricious. The DEIS should be supplemented with an actual inquiry and analysis of the rejected alternatives. Once this is done the decision makers may find that a different alternative is indeed the better one. Without doing this, they will never know.

14  
SEPA3  
(cont'd)

### Off-Site Alternatives

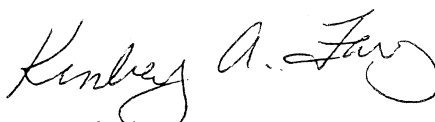
For public projects, the EIS must contain a sufficient discussion of off-site alternatives. See *Weyerhaeuser v. Pierce County*, 124 Wn.2d 26, 38 (1994). In this case, the DEIS addresses the lack of review of Alternative Sites by simply stating that the Joint Athletic Fields Development Plan (JAFDP) had already determined that athletic fields were needed and the plan identified several locations where they could be provided; Sand Point Magnuson Park was one of these locations. End of story.

15  
SEPA1

Not quite. Was the JAFDP an EIS document? If so, it should be cited as such. If not, the fact that the plan suggested several locations does nothing more than provide the screening criteria for this DEIS effort. With this document in place, the project proponents need only analyze the impacts of expanded sports fields at the four Seattle School District properties identified in that report. But they still do need to be analyzed.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your Draft EIS. I have attached a few specific comments as Attachment A. I hope my comments have been helpful, and I hope to see my suggested changes reflected in the Supplemental and Final EISs. Please notify me by mail or email when either of these documents have been published and where I might view them. My email address is farleyk@seattleu.edu.

Sincerely,



Kimberly A. Farley

February 26, 2002

## ATTACHMENT A

### Page Specific Comments

Page 2-3, Figure 2.1-1: Who is to be credited with creation of this map? USGS? Which map quadrangle is it?

16  
SEPA16

Page 2-4: What was the Sand Point peninsula like before it was filled? Was it all wetland? Is that why there are so many drainage problems? When was it filled? Was it filled in stages? Might want to at least reference the section titled Earth, 3.1.1.1.

17  
WET2

Page 2-9: The extensive use of acronyms in Table 2.2-1 under the "Wetland Vegetation Types" make the table very difficult for the average person to understand. The use of these acronyms appears to be completely unnecessary.

18  
PD4

Page 2-9: Table 2.21 notes that Athletic Field Surfaces, but does not note whether these fields are pervious or impervious.

19  
WTR5

**Eric Friedli - Magnuson Park Draft DEIS**

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**From:** <BFstone@aol.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 1/24/2002 12:23 PM  
**Subject:** Magnuson Park Draft DEIS

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Thanks for the very helpful recent publication that was distributed regarding the DEIS for Magnuson Park. My comments are as follows:

1. As a neighbor residing in a house which overlooks the park, I continue to be very concerned about changes from the current natural setting to artificial surfaces and artificial lighting, both for ballfields and parking areas. I do believe that the park needs improvements, so I support fully the careful study that is now underway and many of the improvements that are being considered. I believe, however, that the study should very carefully review the impact on not only the natural environment but also on the social/cultural/aesthetic environment. This park is a wonderful and important resource for the whole city, and especially for those who live nearby. I would love to see the park made more accessible, with an entryway that allows pedestrians and bikers to enter from 65th without putting their lives at risk. I believe this entry corridor should also welcome the visitor by being wide and tree-lined and an introduction to the lovely natural setting within. I also support the wetland and lagoon plans, which seem to make good sense given the site, and more pedestrian walkways, which will make the park accessible to a greater diversity of persons, including the disabled.

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SEPA72  
S/O2

2. As I review the three alternatives presented in the EIS, I find that some combination of the the "lesser capacity" and "no action" makes the best sense. I would point out, first, that calling the third alternative "no action" is misleading and I believe prejudices responses. From the description in the publication, there is actually substantial action included in the "no action" alternative. But more importantly, I believe that many of the improvements set forth in the "lesser capacity" alternative would improve the park, with the important exception of creating seven new sports fields with artificial turf and artificial lighting and the related parking. As I have written earlier, I believe the impact of these actions would be significantly adverse on the environment, and that such fields can be constructed in other areas of the city that are neither as environmentally sensitive nor as detrimental in other ways to so many thousands of residents on both sides of the lake. Please refer to my earlier comments for specifics in these areas.

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SEPA3

So thanks to all for all the hard work that has gone into this process so far, and please remember that this rare island of nonpaved, nonlit, nonartificially turfed land in the middle of mostly paved and lit Seattle is a priceless gem that we should polish and care for but not convert into an overdeveloped recreation factory. If I can be of any further help, I hope you will call on me.

Bruce Firestone  
7507 56th Ave. NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

**Eric Friedli - Magnusen Draft EIS Comments**

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**From:** "Hans Frederick" <hans@actiontechnical.com>  
**To:** <Richard.McIver@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Jan.Drago@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Judy.Nicastro@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Margaret.Pageler@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Jim.Compton@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Peter.Steinbrueck@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Richard.Conlin@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Nick.Licata@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Heidi.Wills@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/28/2002 12:13 AM  
**Subject:** Magnusen Draft EIS Comments

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Hi Eric and All,

I'd like to comment on the Draft EIS for Magnusen Park. I've enjoyed Magnusen 2x a week for the last 20 years as an Ultimate player, bike rider, swimmer, orienteer, and in various fathering capacities.

While I understand, accept, and respect that there are many different types of parks users and neighbors that must be accommodated, I believe there are a few things that should be done in certain ways.

1) As someone who for two decades has scheduled fields in Seattle with varying degrees of success, I know that Seattle needs more fields for all sports. Eleven all weather fields should be built, not seven.

1  
S/O1

2) The size of the grass sports meadow should be expanded. There is room on the south and other perimeters of the meadow for expansion with very little percentage loss of wetland habitat.

2  
WET2

3) The all weather fields should be sized for efficient use by all sports. For example, the soccer fields should be sized so that 2 Ultimate games (80 yds wide + a couple yards between the 2 fields) can be played on a field instead of having a 70yd wide soccer pitch that only fits 1 Ultimate field.

3  
PD5

4) The all weather fields must be lit for fall, winter, and early spring play. There is just no other way to play in the winter when it gets dark before 5:00PM. It is during the low-daylight mid-week evening time slot that the all weather fields are most valuable as a public resource. They must be lit. That said, the neighbors have a legitimate concern about spill lighting. I propose offering the following mitigations.

4  
S/O1

- a) Lights off at 10:00pm, or even 9:30 or 9:00
- b) No lights at all during the long days of summer
- c) Minimize spill lighting

5) Bike-wise and running-wise, there needs to be safe access between the Burke Gilman and the north end of the park. Presently, it's just not very safe because you're forced to bike several blocks along Sand Point Way to enter at the 74th St navy entrance. One solution is to negotiate with NOAA to open their gates once again. Using the NOAA entrance requires only a brief stint on SP Way. The best solution is to use the existing gravel access road/path between the Burke and SP Way and make a tunnel under SP way to create a route that passes thru with the existing underpass below the NOAA entrance road. Whalla! Burke to Mag with no street crossing whatsoever! I know that Federal bike project funds exist for purposes such as this.

5  
PD8

Please make it so! If there's any way I can help any of this happen, let me know.

Thanks for your work,  
Hans Frederick  
4027 NE 113th St  
Seattle, WA 98125-5812  
206 362-5918

**Eric Friedli - Sand Point Lighting**

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**From:** <RobotF@aol.com>  
**To:** <Peter.steinbrueck@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Neil.powers@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
<Stephanie.pure@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Rose.Rapoza@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
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<SaraE.Nelson@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Phyllis.Shulman@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
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<krista.bunch@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Nick.Licata@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
<Newell.Aldrich@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <lisa.herbold@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
<Richard.Mciver@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Paul.Elliott@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
<Yvonne.Newson@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Eric.Parsons@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
<judy.nicastro@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Jill.berkey@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
<Charlie.Mcateer@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Marianne.Spence@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
<Margaret.Pageler@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Linda.Stores@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
<Malik.Davis@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Jenny.Mccloskey@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
<Heidi.Wills@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Michael.Fong@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Katy.Carter@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
<Jo.Chavira-bash@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
<cdavid.hughbanks@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Mayors.Office@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Cope44@aol.com>  
**Date:** 2/27/2002 11:55 AM  
**Subject:** Sand Point Lighting

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Dear Elected Officials,

I have lived in the View Ridge neighborhood with my family for 16 years, and I am writing to express my support of the View Ridge Community Council's position against lighted fields at Magnuson park. If we are a city of neighborhoods, then the needs of the neighborhoods must have priority over expensive unnecessary regional projects. As you know this is planned to be the largest lighted fields project in the Pacific Northwest. Why not rehabilitate existing fields at lower cost, and spare a nice neighborhood the environmental, esthetic and property value losses. This is not to mention the health costs of unnatural day-night cycles for humans and animals.

Patrick Friel

1  
SEPA3

January 29, 2002

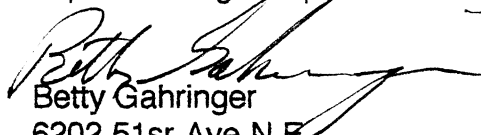
Eric Friedli, Director of Operations  
✓David Hughbanks, Executive Director

I feel the impact on Wildlife will be devastating. Too many lights, too much noise, and too much traffic. Why have it so close to a noisy sports field. How could any wildlife survive under these conditions. A wildlife area should be in a quiet spot with little night light. How can anyone think that this is an ideal solution. Surely you can do better than this.

1  
WDLF1

Please find a suitable place so that wildlife can be adequately protected.

Thank you for your help in making this possible.

  
Betty Gahringer  
6202 51st Ave N.E.  
Seattle, Wa. 98115

**Eric Friedli - FW: Magnuson Park Space - please include space for rollerblading**

---

**From:** "Gaile Gamble" <dorgai@earthlink.net>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/24/2002 4:15 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Magnuson Park Space - please include space for rollerblading

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----- Original Message -----

**From:** Gaile Gamble  
**To:** eric.friedli@ci.seattlewa.us  
**Sent:** 2/25/02 3:37:03 PM  
**Subject:** Magnuson Park Space - please include space for rollerblading

Dear Mr. Friedli,

Thank you for making it possible to voice an opinion about the use of Magnuson Park. I am writing on behalf of all the rollerbladers of Seattle who have very limited options when skating in this city.

First, there is Green Lake, a beautiful place, to be sure. But it is very crowded with dogs, runners, bikers and baby strollers. Second, there is the Burke-Gillman trail which has become extremely cracked and rough north of the UW. The path is narrow and also one must navigate around many bikers, walkers and runners. Aside from skating on sidewalks and streets, these are the options for warm, dry weather.

When the weather is cold and wet, the Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation chooses to provide even fewer options by closing the two indoor facilities where the minimal offering to skating (ONE EVENING PER MONTH!) is completely given over to basketball. These are the Meadowbrook and Ravenna Eckstein Community Centers. The only other option available is every Friday night at Bitter Lake, where adult skating is offered on Fri. from 6:30 to 8:15 pm, and teen skates, age 13-19 from 8:30 to 10 pm. (I am a 59-yr.-old. Is one hour and forth-five minutes a week a good physical fitness program for me - I think not.)

What is the message we are getting? Are skaters not thought of as deserving of facilities? There is no private rink in Seattle. What kind of physical fitness can a skater maintain during unseasonable weather? I asked a leading skate shop here in town what skaters do in winter and was told we just have to change to bike riding or something else.

This is very sad and disappointing. I have spoken to a lot of folks who skate, including two of my doctors, friends (and strangers) who skate, and a young pregnant woman who wants her forthcoming child to learn to skate so they can skate together. Everyone I have spoken to would LOVE to have a safe, dry, place to skate all year round.

I personally do not have another sport to fall back on in winter. Rollerblading is the only one I can do successfully and enjoy. I am diabetic and have a muscle condition and it is mandatory for me to exercise rigorously to keep my blood sugars and muscle pain under control.

I am asking that you provide a skating area for in-line skaters at Magnuson, in addition to the hockey skating area which is being considered. Ideally, there would be an outdoor area which would be exclusively for skaters, and a covered indoor area which could be used all year. A hangar or other existing building could easily be converted by installing a smooth floor.

1  
PD10

This would provide the City of Seattle with a much-needed place for the many skaters who live here and for those who are yet to come, for in-line skating is a wonderful sport which burns as many calories as jogging, yet avoids the pounding on the joints, making it ideal for a vigorous, yet safe, workout.

1  
PD10  
(cont'd)

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Gaile Gamble  
5054 Sand Point Place NE  
Seattle, 98105  
206.523.9946

--Gaile Gamble

--- [dorgai@earthlink.net](mailto:dorgai@earthlink.net)  
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--Gaile Gamble  
--- [dorgai@earthlink.net](mailto:dorgai@earthlink.net)  
--- EarthLink: The #1 provider of the Real Internet.

**Eric Friedli - Sand Point DEIS**

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**From:** <KGARDOW@aol.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/21/2002 12:36 PM  
**Subject:** Sand Point DEIS

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I recommend that a more expansive bike system be placed on the project site. This should include safe bikeway facilities from the entrance of the park to the sports facilities. This will enable families and children to access and attend sporting events by bicycle rather than by car. Right now there is only a safe bikeway into the park to Kite Hill. This does not provide adequate safe biking to the sporting facilities.

1  
PD10

(In the long run, safe bike access to the Burke-Gilman trail should also be considered.)

Further, bike storage facilities should be provided at all sporting fields, so there is a safe place to store bikes during a game or event. Thank you.

Kathryn Gardow  
5063 Harold Place NE  
Seattle, WA 98105  
Phone: 206-527-6691  
FAX: 206-527-7323

**Eric Friedli - Sand Point MagnusonPark**

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**From:** "Alden Garrett" <chuckal@earthlink.net>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/28/2002 12:35 PM  
**Subject:** Sand Point MagnusonPark

---

Dear Mr.. Friedli:

First I'd like to thank you for sending the draft environmental impact statement to your neighbors. I regret not having been able to participate in the process and submit a few thoughts as a Johnny-come-lately.

Although I have not done an exhaustive review of your materials I would like to weigh in that alternative 3...to do nothing seems to be a vast waste of a potentially wonderful site.

There are two things that I have always found lacking in American parks which I would ask to be considered. First, a decent or even high end restaurant. We always succumb to the junk food industry like at the zoo which I find ironic when ostensibly many of us are taking our kids to the parks for exercise and health. In France where I was fortunate to live for a year, many parks housed not only concessions, but really nice tea houses or restaurants...I don't see why it is so hard for our government to step up to anything that has some gentility attached to it. It is like art...many people don't enjoy art, think it is for the elite and is wasteful...however, for many many people, regardless of culture, status, profession etc art is an affirmation of some of the nicer parts of our existence and allows people to feel better. Having a nice place to eat with edible, non junk food in a park setting seems to be a nicety that we should afford ourselves.

The second thing I would love to see, although it will no longer impact me, but certainly did when I had a young child, would be a nicely fenced playground. In major cities, i.e. New York or Paris...in fact all through France, the play areas have nice wrought iron waist high fences. The benefits are that dogs don't come in and poop, you can take more than one child to the park at a time and not worry that one will run off toward the lake and drown, while you are trying to gather up your other child so that you can run after the first one, grandparents and other people who may not have the physical prowess to keep up with the kids can take the children to the park, no one can easily saunter over to your child and molest them....it does not make the kids feel like they are in jail...it provides a safer place. I stopped taking my child to Greenlake play area because it was next to the parking lots and when she went behind the slides I couldn't tell if she had wandered off to the parking lot or been abducted as she was hidden from view. I thought it more intrusive to follow at three paces to make sure she was safe. I also quit going to Matthews beach playground with a friend and her infant as she had a runner and was invariably handing off the infant to me while she ran after her kid so he wouldn't go into the lake.

Just some thoughts on some positive attributes of parks *I have seen elsewhere. Thanks for listening.*

*alden Garrett*

1  
PD10

## Eric Friedli - Impact of proposal for illumination of Sand Point Magnuson Playing Fields

---

**From:** "Gerber" <babyfood@u.washington.edu>  
**To:** <jim.compton@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <richard.conlin@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
 <jan.drago@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <nick.licata@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
 <peter.steinbrueck@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <richard.mciver@seattle.wa.us>,  
 <judy.nicastro@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <heidi.wills@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
 <Mayors.office@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <ken.bounds@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
 <cdavid.hughbanks@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/16/2002 3:18 PM  
**Subject:** Impact of proposal for illumination of Sand Point Magnuson Playing Fields

---

Dear Councilmembers, Mayor, Superintendent, Executive Director,

We are most upset with the proposal for a massive lighting project of the 11 proposed sports fields at Magnuson Park. The impact of this huge proposal would make this wetland setting of natural beauty the largest lit playfield area in the entire northwest. Yet now there are five states and communities near the Seattle area that have light pollution laws. The DEIS proposal understates or is inaccurate with regard to the glare, the light spillover, the impact on wildlife, and the impact on traffic and noise. Do we want this area to become like Southern California or do we value our way of life and our natural beauty? Playfields are, of course, important. Having four times the number of fields in this setting as opposed to the average number of fields in Seattle is unreasonable. Having high levels of illumination in a setting that faces thousands of families that are directly opposite or overlooking this site is quite simply an abomination.

If the city truly wants neighborhood response to the Magnuson proposals, then they need to listen and consider the people who live near the site. Some playfields yes; any illumination NO.

Lane and Joanna Gerber

6500 50th NE, Seattle 98115

1  
L&G2

**Eric Friedli - February 4 Meeting at Magnuson Park**

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**From:** "Judith Hance" <jrhance@earthlink.net>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 1/29/2002 11:09 AM  
**Subject:** February 4 Meeting at Magnuson Park

---

I am unable to attend the February 4 meeting regarding the Sand Point Magnuson Park's environmental impact statement. I concur with the request for no sports field lights. We have long evening hours in the summer with plenty of light for sports - my nearby park has no lights so far, and there are games there every evening during the summer. By the time it's too dark to play, it's time for everyone to go home, anyway. And it's not just the lights - noise, traffic - especially up and down 65th and 70th NE, through quiet neighborhoods with narrow streets, are also heavy enough as it is. It is time to tell the sports enthusiasts that there is a limit to how far the rest of us should have to go so that they can have everything they want. Magnuson Park will remain a treasure only as long as we protect the natural environment and respect the fact that it exists in a neighborhood where people live. Studies show birds are affected by the presence of light at night, when it should be dark. Thanks for this opportunity to speak my piece.

1  
L&G22  
S/O4

--- Judith Hance  
--- [jrhance@earthlink.net](mailto:jrhance@earthlink.net)  
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3  
WDLF1

My name is David Hashimoto. I live on 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue Northeast, directly above the proposed location for baseball fields.

The DEIS states that, "Residences along or east of 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE and north of approximately NE 70<sup>th</sup> Street appear to be at a low enough elevation that they might experience glare from multiple fields."

The lighting demonstration in November showed, in fact, that glare from baseball field flood lights will directed straight into my house.

The DEIS says that, "Glare is highly subjective and its measurement has eluded lighting experts for over a hundred years." However, I understand that measurements do exist for the brightness of lighting, the reflective quality of surfaces (such as artificial turf) and the atmospheric scattering of light.

I think the final EIS should be based on the best scientific methods available. Actual measurements and calculations should be made. The EIS should not be based on the speculation that runs throughout the Draft EIS. Statements such as "appear to be at a low enough elevation" and "might experience glare" are obviously not based on scientific measurement or observation. Measurements should be taken and the total effect of 152 conventional floodlights, 488 full cutoff lights, lights for 867 parking spaces, and lights for roads and pathways should be calculated.

After seeing the lighting demonstration, I asked the Parks Department to come to my house to see the glare during a future lighting demonstration. The Parks Department responded that they would, "make a note of this and contact you should we decide to accept your gracious offer." I was not just making a "gracious offer." I was making a specific recommendation that the Parks Department actually look at the lighting before this project goes forward.

The Parks Department's own lighting expert said that this project will be the largest lighted sports complex in the entire Northwest. The huge scope of the project will have tremendous and significant impact on thousands of people living west and south of the park. The EIS for the project should not be finalized until there is actual observation of a larger number of lights.

I recommend that the Parks Department set up lights to approximate the lighting for the proposed #7, #8 and #9 fields. I recommend that people drafting the final EIS then go to Santos Place and to other residences all the way to the peak of View Ridge and Hawthorne Hills to directly observe the effects of the lights. If measurements of the lights cannot be taken from these residences, then I recommend that people who live in the area be interviewed during this demonstration to determine what the impact will be.

1  
L&G1

2  
L&G2

The Draft EIS does not consider alternative sites for the sports field development. The State Environmental Policy Act says that public projects must consider off-site alternatives to planned projects. Parks Department staff say there are fields in other parts of the City with outdated lighting that will be removed and not replaced. These locations as well as other parks throughout the City should be considered as alternatives to fields at Magnuson Park. Spreading fields around the City will increase access to all City residents, will reduce energy costs and pollution as a result of reduced travel and will reduce the total adverse impacts of fields on any one neighborhood. The City should also consider Regional solutions to the need for additional sports fields. King County is closing many parks because it does not have the money to maintain them. If the City has money and believes that private funds are available to support new fields, it should consider working with the County to make the best use of available land with the least negative environmental impact.

3  
SEPA1

The City should also look at laws that presently restrict lighting. Five States (Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Connecticut and Maine) and hundreds of local governments have adopted lighting restrictions that are far more comprehensive than the City of Seattle. In our own County, Redmond and Shoreline have more stringent lighting restrictions. Light pollution is a serious environmental concern and we should look to communities that have taken steps to reduce this pollution.

4  
SEPA10

I would like to conclude my comments with two last points.

First, the DEIS does not adequately measure the impacts of noise and construction. These impacts need to be measured or predicted through the best science available. If the science is not available, the City should survey residents to understand the already significant impacts of noise from existing sports field and construction on the Children's Hospital office building. Noise from sports fields is easily heard from my house and becomes very loud when there are large tournaments at the park. The noise often reaches the point where it is unpleasant to be outside. The DEIS assumes that because neighbors are not complaining, noise is not a problem. This is not the case. The huge increase in park usage with 7 to 15 sports fields will have significant impacts on the entire surrounding area.

5  
NOI1

Finally, the DEIS says that significant impacts on transitional housing are unavoidable and mitigation measures have not been identified. The only alternative considered is a "Lesser Capacity Alternative" that maintains all five lighted baseball fields directly behind the transitional housing. If significant adverse impacts on people living at the Sand Point Community Housing Association cannot be avoided or mitigated, the project should not be done.

6  
L&G2

I ride the Number 74 bus that leaves NE 70<sup>th</sup> Street and Sand Point Way at 6:05 am. One man who lives at Santos Place is on that bus going to work. Four children who live in the Association's family housing are also on that bus going to school. These people and others living in the housing will face severe disruption of their efforts to go to school, go

to work and make the transition from homelessness to more permanent housing if sports fields are in use until 11pm each night.

The City provided a great service to the community and to people who live at Sand Point when it supported creation of this housing. The City should not reverse this support by subjecting people who live there to 10 years of construction noise, lights pointed directly into their apartments, and traffic and noise late at night.

**Eric Friedli - wetlands and sportsfield lighting**

---

**From:** "MARY HASHIMOTO" <mollyhashimoto@prodigy.net>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/26/2002 7:03 AM  
**Subject:** wetlands and sportsfield lighting

---

Hello Eric,

I was at the hearing on the sportsfield lighting and was one of the speakers. I really appreciated you and David being at the hearing. My comments were mainly directed to the lighting issues, but I would like to add that I think the wetlands plan is really good and I thank you and the designers. I did talk to them briefly at the hearing, as well as to the wildlife biologist. I hope that if we do succeed in reducing the number of fields and artificial turf, that there will be ways to adjust the wetlands plan.

The wetlands biologist did tell me that this combination of sportsfields and wetlands has never been done before and so it is kind of an experiment and a great unknown. I find that very problematical. I don't want to see the wildlife down there reduced or threatened by this experiment.

One other issue: I walk at the park alot and I find since NOAA closed access to it that walking through the 65th street entrance to the beach area is kind of dangerous. When might we see sidewalks? Thanks,  
Molly Hashimoto

1  
WET1

2  
TRAN1

I am a park neighbor. I have 2 points to make.

Point 1: From my house in late winter after dark I can hear the Pacific Tree frogs that inhabit the wetlands at the Park. Many of the wetlands are immediately adjacent to the proposed fields. In the plan Grove Pond and South Meadow Pond are next to the baseball and soccer fields. The DEIS states that numbers of amphibians are expected to increase under the new plan with the development of the wetlands, but the map does show spill from the lights into the ponds. In addition to those sportsfield lights there will also be parking area lights and automobile lights from increased traffic. The frogs are a species that is mainly nocturnal. I would like to see the scientific data supporting the DEIS statement that the amphibians will increase. I also want to know what is going to happen to them during the proposed 10 years of construction. I can't believe that there will not be significant impacts in areas close to the construction sites.

Point 2: In addition to being a park neighbor I am also a park user. I walk there several times a week. I also teach 3 painting classes a week for North Seattle Community College at their Sandpoint campus. I bring my classes to the park 10 or more times a year for open air painting. The landscapes, native plants and birds all make this a wonderful resource for my students who are part of the greater Seattle community. We and the boaters and picnickers and kiteflyers and dog owners and soccer and tennis players are currently enjoying the park. The housing is being put to a great use for the families who are living there. Why spend all this taxpayer money when the park is wonderful as it is? I am in favor of the no action alternative. The proposed action doesn't take into account the effects of the huge scale of the sportsfields on other uses of the park. I think this plan suffers from grandiosity with the drafters envisioning a mixed use scenario that looks really inventive and creative on paper, but in reality would be a disaster. A more comprehensive EIS which takes into account all the proposed uses and their impacts on one another (including the construction period) is called for.

Molly Hashimoto  
7303 58<sup>th</sup> AV NE  
Seattle, WA 98115  
527-0796

3  
WDLF1

4  
WDLF8

5  
S/O5

## Eric Friedli - Sand Point Magnuson Park DEIS comments

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**From:** Loren Hill <LorenH@bumgardnerseattle.com>  
**To:** "eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us" <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/28/2002 6:19 PM  
**Subject:** Sand Point Magnuson Park DEIS comments

---

Mr. Friedli,

I have read the Sand Point/Magnuson DEIS and would like to commend you and your colleagues on a thorough and detailed report. Overall I'm excited at the opportunities described in the Proposed Action. I support that option over the lesser option. I think in this time of Social Greed, we need to make an endorsement of Civic Pride. If we don't go all the way now, it will just be another black X on the long list of opportunities lost by the City of Seattle. This is important gift we can give to generations to come.

I would like to add here my additional feed back on the report.

1. I would suggest adding an additional sports meadow of two fields in size near the vicinity of the proposed sports meadow. I am part of the Ultimate Frisbee community and field space is impossible to find in the City for "Organized Ultimate" and "Pick-up" Ultimate. I suggest giving up some of the parking by the sports meadow for this use. That way they can both share the same restrooms, etc.. Sport field users tend to be more transportation efficient then most, by car pooling and biking to events. You could still keep the overall parking count the same by adding more park street parking. When people are using a park, they are there to exercise. They can walk to their destination.

2. I think the park pedestrian walkways should be designed similar to Burke/Gillman Trail. Bikes, roller blades and pedestrians share the trail amazingly well and what better way to encourage alternative circulation throughout the park then to encourage biking. Do we really want kids to bike in the street. This could be a great place for kids and the rest of us who don't feel safe next to cars to bike and roller blade. I do like the gesture of the bike way into the park that is shown in the report, but I think resources could be use better in just having one Bike/Ped circulation, but of greater scope to go to all the opportunities that the new park will offer.

Thank you for your time, good luck on the task ahead and I hope you will seriously consider my suggestions.

LOREN HILL  
lorenh@bumgardnerseattle.com  
BUMGARDNER  
ARCHITECTURE \* INTERIORS \* PLANNING  
101 Stewart St. Suite 200  
Seattle, Washington 98101-1048  
206.223.1361 phone 447.8194 fax

1  
PD10

## Eric Friedli - Magnuson Park Draft Environmental Impact Statement

**From:** "R.L. Jones" <redwood7@mindspring.com>  
**To:** <mayors.office@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <margaret.pageler@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <jim.compton@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <richard.conlin@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <jan.drago@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <nick.licata@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <peter.steinbrueck@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <richard.mciver@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <judy.nicastro@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <heidi.wills@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <ken.bounds@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <cdavid.hughbanks@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/4/2002 3:54 PM  
**Subject:** Magnuson Park Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
**CC:** <inde52@aol.com>

Dear Everyone:

I am a concerned citizen voicing disappointment with the planned high impact development and use of Magnuson Park.

I was raised within a few blocks of Magnuson Park and went to elementary school at the now closed Sand Point elementary school. Although I no longer live in View Ridge, my mother still lives there in the family home we have lived in since 1965.

Magnuson Park as it exists is a beautiful park. There is no need to expand its development and use, especially considering how the City of Seattle for the past several years has been unable to maintain its existing parks and playfields! I know this firsthand as a softball player. Recent news reports have even indicated that the City of Seattle and King County are closing or reducing access to playfields. How can the City of Seattle now justify building nearly a dozen playfields with late night activity when it can't even maintain what it has?

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SEPA11

Park activity that goes well into the night (softball with night lighting until 11:00pm, but people and vehicle activity that will go beyond that time), will significantly and adversely affect not just the surrounding neighborhoods, but also the wildlife that has found a niche in an otherwise very urban environment.

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L&G2  
3  
WDLF1

I have seen owls, falcons, and hawks, as well as wetlands birds IN THE PARK. I have seen bald eagles flying over the park. The owls and migratory wetlands birds nest and hunt in the park. All of the proposed development schemes will have a very significant adverse impact on this wildlife, already marginalized and stressed by human encroachment.

4  
WET3

The added traffic, people noise and particulary night lighting will diminish surrounding property values. Over the last several years, lighting in the City of Kirkland alone, on the other side of Lake Washington, has impacted the night sky visibilty on this side of the Lake. High intensity sports field lights only a few blocks away will magnify that loss of night sky view.

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SEPA6  
6  
L&G2

Please do not go forward with any more development of Magnuson Park. Magnuson Park should remain as is. Like Discovery Park, it should be a natural haven for wildlife and people who want to experience a little serenity of nature within our urban environments.

Thank you.

Ron Jones  
 2839 NW 56th Street, #303  
 Seattle, WA 98107  
 (206) 297-1510

**Eric Friedli - DEIS Sand Point Sports Fields**

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**From:** "Susanne Keller" <sousa77@attbi.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/4/2002 1:21 PM  
**Subject:** DEIS Sand Point Sports Fields

---

We are unable to attend the meeting on February 4 because of a death in our family.

We have major concerns about the number of playing fields, the increase in noise since the hillside acts as an amplifier, the increase in traffic (There will be additional traffic when Children's Hospital completes its construction on Sand Point) and the effect on wildlife in the area.

We believe that Magnuson can expand the number of playing fields but do not feel that it should become the largest site of playing fields in the city. As it is in a residential neighborhood, lighting could be eliminated, after all it is light during the summer until quite late. Even if light use was restricted to a more reasonable time (9pm), the poles and light fixtures during the daytime would be unsightly.

Even though down lights would be used, other lights as shown during the recent demonstration would shine directly into resident's windows. The chief offender with this is the baseball lights which have been designed to favor the catcher with that point in the field being oriented in the north west direction. This does not seem fair to residents.

Sincerely,

Susanne Keller and Allan Williams  
7723 58th Avenue NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

1  
NOI1  
TRAN1  
WDLF1  
WET3

2  
L&G2

**Eric Friedli - DEIS Drainage, Wetland/Habitat Complex and Sports Field/Courts Project**

**From:** "tpaulkelly" <tpaulkelly@msn.com>  
**To:** "Eric Friedli" <Eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/26/2002 9:28 PM  
**Subject:** DEIS Drainage, Wetland/Habitat Complex and Sports Field/Courts Project

Dear Eric,

Please accept these as my written comments on the draft environmental impact statement for the Drainage, Wetland/Habitat Complex and Sports Field/Courts Project.

Although these comments are mostly critical to seek improvements in the statement and plan, I want to say that I support many elements of the plan, especially those that will create wetland and wildlife habitat. I think that the DEIS is well done in many respects, is a valuable document, and certainly reflects well on those who contributed to it and wrote it.

I'm going to focus on a few points and skip many I'm sure others will make.

First off, I'd prefer to see a broader range of alternatives. The lesser impact alternative is just too similar to the preferred alternative. A lesser alternative with fewer sports fields would be a more clearly intermediate option.

Although it may be true that the City Council has expressed preference for a certain number of sports fields at Magnuson Park, I think that decision was made without full consideration of environmental impacts or alternative options for locating sports fields. Many of these impacts like making people more automobile dependent and worsening traffic hit well beyond the borders of the Park.

Secondly I think the DEIS understates the impact of the sports field lighting. The DEIS mischaracterizes the present conditions when it dismisses the Park and surrounding area as a heavily urbanized area that already generates considerable sky glow. This overlooks the fact that this is now one of the darker parts of the City and the fact that Lake Washington is unlit and will never be a significant source of light or glow. This will result in the sky glow from the sports field lighting being much more apparent and noticeable than it would be in other areas of the City.

The DEIS needs to address the significant impacts of sky glow and needs to address specific measures to reduce it. If there are to be lights, the field surfaces should be designed to absorb the light and to not reflect it. This may include using dark, non-reflective surfaces and colors that will absorb the spectrum of light produced among other things.

Taking the view of the heavens from thousands of people is significant. For many people being able to see the stars, or a meteor, or the moon on the lake is worth far more than any night sporting event.

The sky glow will diminish the quality of some marvelous public views over the park and onto Lake Washington. On moonlight nights that is one of the best views in Seattle and it is available to anyone who walks the streets or crests over View Ridge in a vehicle. Loss of such a view is significant.

The impact of the skyglow on wildlife also needs to be addressed.

My third point is that the DEIS is somewhat inaccurate in its remarks about the effects on energy consumption. Although it talks about the average load over a year, it fails to mention that the lights will add to Seattle City Light's peak load. Although the percentage increase similarly small, it is still significant because peak power is the most expensive power and because increases in peak load require building more power plants. Because the lights would increase peak power needs, it is quite likely that the increased energy costs from the lights would be partially subsidized by all City Light ratepayers and not paid in full by the Park's billings for the lights.

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SEPA22  
L&G23  
WDLF14  
ENR1

Fourth I'd like to see the alternatives differ with respect to the trail that encircles the wetlands. Ideally this would allow comparison of an eight foot wide path with the proposed twelve foot one.

I'd like to see a lesser impact alternative with an eight foot width for the portion of the trail curving south from the west side junction with the cross park trail on around the south edge to the junction with the shoreline promenade. Having a twelve foot width and having this portion of the trail open to cycle traffic seem undesirable to me.

Most people would prefer to walk or run on a narrower trail. The cross park trail itself, for instance, is only nine feet wide and many similar trails such as the trail across the Montlake fill near the Center for Urban Horticulture, or the NOAA shoreline trails are much less than twelve feet wide.

These narrower trails support a variety of uses and are wide enough for a service vehicle. The eight foot width works fine for running and the Montlake fill path carries considerable football game day pedestrian traffic.

That extra four feet in width will consume about a third of an acre that could otherwise be alive with plant and animal life.

Fifth I'd like make the point that the DEIS needs to address the impact of more off leash dogs in the park. With more people using the park there are likely to be more scofflaws unless the Park addresses this. Certainly some of the scofflaws are misinformed or confused about the off leash area. Many of these will cooperate once they know the rules. For others, the only effective tool may be fear of a citation. One way to address the problem would be to have someone with citation powers roving the park at unpredictable times often enough to increase the probability of education or citation.

Sixth, I'd like to see the DEIS address the noise impacts of the sportsfields and associated traffic. This should include the noise impact on the adjacent neighborhood and also the impact on wildlife. This would include the noise from the sportsfield events themselves, the noise from any sorts of events envisioned for the future, and the noise of traffic spikes as people arrive for games or leave the neighborhood after games.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Respectfully yours,

=Tom Kelly=  
6053 53rd Avenue NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

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SEPA36  
WDLF57  
NOI1

6530 51 Avenue NE  
Seattle, Washington 98115  
February 5th, 2002

Eric Friedli  
Director, Operations and Planning  
City of Seattle, Department of Parks  
and Recreation  
Sand Point Magnuson Park Division  
7400 Sand Point Way  
Seattle, WA, 98115

Dear Mr. Friedl:

I think you may have been present during the meeting about the planned sports fields that took place last night at the Community Activities Center, but in any case, I hope you will be able to read the record of the meeting carefully. It contains much information not included in the DEIS, and makes a strong case for the point that the plan will disrupt the lives of those living around Magnuson Park in a variety of ways.

What I found especially distressing was the evidence that the DEIS was unreliable. It was shown that it was vague on crucial points ("not likely to impact"), did not support statements with measurable, scientific evidence, was in actual error about several things, and omitted relevant topics. If the speakers were accurate, it violated the rules for impact statements by failing to mention viable alternatives. You can read all this for yourself.

Excellent, factual arguments were offered on the following points:

Traffic -- the increase, much understated in the DEIS, will make it difficult for residents and visitors to negotiate our streets, especially at such points as Sand Point Way and 65th and 70th, the area in front of Children's Hospital, etc. Not mentioned was the impact on the Montlake Cut area, which is already impassable at most times.

Lighting - Perhaps the most threatening element of the plan, wildly understated in the DEIS. The area of the fields, as one speaker says, is 4 times that of Safeco Field. The record of the meeting will show, in detail, with scientific backup, that the lighting plan is invasive, disruptive, and in violation of established standards.

Noise - One problem is that the adjoining neighborhood is a hill that rises over the park. This means both that the lights and their glow will fall directly on the houses, and that the noise will be intensified -- which would not be so bad if the land were flat. I live a quarter of a mile away, near the top of the hill, but I can hear the traffic on Sand Point Way. It's not a problem now, but obviously, the noise from 11 ball fields heard at night

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will be far worse. As one mother noted, this will occur just at the time when children are being put to bed.

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NOI1  
(cont'd)

Security - I did not hear this mentioned. The prospect of dozens of cars filled with young folks pouring through our streets at night is not an attractive one. Like others, I have had my car vandalized in past years by young men who were later caught.

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PSU1

You will read about all this in detail. The neighborhoods that will be impacted are not small. They include: View Ridge; Radford Court, North Windermere, and especially the transitional housing on the campus, where I am told, 70 children live.

It is right for the city to provide facilities for recreation. But the idea of concentrating sports in a gigantic center adjoining residential neighborhoods -- the largest center of its kind in the region, I would guess, attracting hundreds of people every night of the week -- is folly. That is the main mistake. Congestion, crowding, unsanitary conditions, are sure to come up. It has often been suggested that the sports facilities be dispersed to school yards, unoccupied land, etc. And this would seem to be an excellent alternative. Without much effort, I can think of several sites -- Laurelhurst Playfield, Discovery Park, Lincoln Park, the open area near the Urban Horticultural Center, now devoted to arboreal study, the lawns adjoining Green Lake, etc.

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SEPA1

SEPA3

I am a park user as well as a park neighbor. The open land lying along the lake is a valuable esthetic resource, and is already much used for recreation -- by us, who live here, as well as by picnickers, swimmers, kite flyers, boaters and dog owners from other areas. If part of the land is open, that is fine -- a park is a park, not a sports stadium. Sports do not belong on valuable lake front land.

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S/O4

I am recommending that the entire plan be discarded. The DEIS you have is misleading, deceptive and in some cases, apparently incompetent. A couple of sports fields, unlighted, would be acceptable. I look forward to hearing that there is a new plan for putting the other fields elsewhere.

Sincerely,  
*Jacob Korg*  
Jacob Korg

CC: City Council members

**Eric Friedli - Excessive Magnuson Park lighting**

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**From:** <Bob.Kupor@mdsps.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 1/29/2002 9:16 AM  
**Subject:** Excessive Magnuson Park lighting

---

Dear Mr. Friedli:

I live in a View Ridge house that faces Magnuson park, and therefore urge the city to minimize the high intensity sport field lighting which is planned there. Like most people, I and my neighbors appreciate seeing the stars, moon, and natural night sky after dark. Unfortunately, it appears that several 85 foot poles will have conventional high-intensity lights which will face our homes and create a non-stop artificial night-time glare. I urge you to reconsider this plan. Thanks for your consideration.

Dr. Bob Kupor  
7733 58th Ave NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

1  
L&G2

**Eric Friedli - Sandpoint Magnuson Lesser Capacity Alternative not environmentally friendly.**

**From:** "Susan Lang" <sqlang@u.washington.edu>  
**To:** <Peter.steinbrueck@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Neil.powers@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Stephanie.pure@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Rose.Rapoza@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <jim.Compton@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <George.Allen@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Irene.Namkung@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Linda.Robson@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Richard.Conlin@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Elaine.Ko@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <SaraE.Nelson@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Phyllis.Shulman@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <jan.drago@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <barbara.clemons@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <krista.bunch@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Nick.Licata@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Newell.Aldrich@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <lisa.herbald@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Richard.Mciver@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Paul.Elliott@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Yvonne.Newson@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Eric.Parsons@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <judy.nicastro@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Jill.berkey@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Charlie.Mcateer@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Mariette.Spence@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Margaret.Pageler@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Linda.Stores@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Malik.Davis@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Jenny.Mccloskey@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Heidi.Wills@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Michael.Fong@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Katy.Carter@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Jo.Chavira-bash@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <cdavid.hughbanks@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <patti.petesch@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Mayors.Office@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <dewey.potter@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Michele.Daly@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Alix.ogden@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Jennifer.Sporleder@med.va.gov>, <david.takami@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/27/2002 11:02 AM  
**Subject:** Sandpoint Magnuson Lesser Capacity Alternative not environmentally friendly.

> Dear Council Members, Assistants, Parks officials, and other interested  
 > parties:  
 >  
 > I have recently reviewed the proposed action of the development of  
 > Magnuson Sandpoint and the accompanying lesser-capacity alternative. At  
 > first glance, the Lesser-Capacity Alternative sounds very attractive  
 because  
 > it claims to "feasibly attain or approximate the proposal's objectives but  
 > at a lower environmental cost or decreased level of environmental  
 > degradation" (pg. 43 of final draft of Environmental Impact Statement for  
 > Sandpoint Magnuson Park). As an oceanographer, I am  
 > strongly in favor of mitigating adverse environmental impacts where ever  
 and  
 > when ever possible.  
 >  
 > It did not take a much closer reading, however, to realize that the  
 > primary way that the Lesser-Capacity Alternative proposes to decrease  
 > environmental impacts is through decreasing the number of lighted fields.  
 > In fact, while converting four fields from being lit to unlit also  
 includes  
 > changing their surfaces from synthetic to natural-grass. I am curious to  
 > find out how it is that doubling the number of fields requiring intensive  
 > maintenance and fertilization and protection from erosion would lessen the  
 > environmental impact. The EIS states that a natural-grass field requires  
 > approximately 6-8 pounds of nitrogen, 5 pounds of elemental sulfur, 2  
 pounds  
 > of phosphorous, and 4 pounds of potassium PER YEAR for every 1,000 square  
 > foot (pg. 2-41 of final draft of EIS). Additionally, a broad spectrum  
 > herbicide was recommended for weed breakouts. On the other hand, the  
 > maintenance for the  
 > synthetic field would "primary involve cleaning" (pg. 2-41 of final draft  
 of

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SEPA2

> EIS). While I am not against fertilization and herbicides when necessary,  
> doubling the amount of fertilization so close to Lake Washington where  
> dangerous algae blooms could easily occur from increased nutrients hardly  
> seems like "lower environmental cost."  
>  
> The drainage section of the Lesser-Capacity Alternative somewhat  
> mentions these very concerns (pg. 2-45). It states "the volume of  
> stormwater flowing through the project site will be slightly greater than  
> estimated for the proposed action" and later mentions that "Water quality  
> treatment measures would be needed of the additional natural-turf fields  
to  
> account for the larger area subject to fertilization." The  
Wetland/Habitat  
> section (pg. 2-45) states that "there would be a reduction of  
approximately  
> 0.7 acres of the interior emergent marsh/wet meadow habitat zone" and that  
> "the water quality pond located in the north meadow would not be created."  
> How are any of these changes consistent with the introduction of the  
> Lesser-Capacity Alternative that claims a goal of lessening environmental  
> impacts?  
>  
> The Lesser-Capacity Alternative is in fact far more dangerous to the  
> fragile environment of Magnuson Sandpoint than the original, well balanced  
> proposal. It does not take much insight to realize that the  
> "Lesser-Capacity Alternative" was created to appease the neighborhood  
> groups. Fewer lights and more natural grass fields ensure that the park  
> will not be used to its full capacity, an idea that they love. But  
> decreased usage in this case does not in any way mean decreased  
> environmental impact. It is also seriously detrimental to user groups and  
> would allow the current park shortage to continue.  
>  
> Please do not consider the Lesser-Capacity Alternative. It would be  
> harmful to Magnuson Sandpoint, harmful to Lake Washington, and harmful to  
> Seattle.  
>  
> Thank you,  
> Susan Lang  
> Seattle Resident  
>  
>

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SEPA2  
(cont'd)

## Eric Friedli - Magnuson Park

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**From:** Mary Lasley MD <mlasley@nwasthma.com>  
**To:** "eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us" <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/27/2002 8:06 AM  
**Subject:** Magnuson Park

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Dear Mr. Friedli:

I am a resident in the neighborhood that looks directly over Magnuson Park and would be directly impacted by the proposed high intensity lights from the 11 sports fields. I strongly object to the amount of light pollution that these lights would cause. I attended the meeting in which the lights were exhibited. The halo and glare was clearly reflected directly into the neighborhood from the 3 lights. It would be considerably more of a problem if you approve the lighting of all 11 fields.

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L&G2

As a current user of Magnuson park for riding bikes, using the playground, swimming, rollerblading and kite flying, I am also concerned about the impact of the park use for the local community vs. being a drawing place for the entire city at all hours of the day and night. We have also enjoyed walking the trails and identifying local wildlife in the park. It is my understanding that this also may be negatively impacted by the lighting and the human density.

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REC2

Please realize that I am a proponent of the parks system as I do have 2 young boys that play a number of sports; however I do not think it makes sense to negatively impact a community/neighborhood with the addition of 80 poles and 640 luminaires.

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S/O4

If you feel that sports fields must be built, please consider a lesser number with no lights. If lights are a must then they should not be allowed to operate until 11:00. People are flexible in their approach to ideas, but at this point it has felt like neighborhood members have had no impact in these decisions.

The headlines yesterday in the Seattle PI report that 20 parks that have already been built are going to be closed. I have concerns that the grand plan for Magnuson Park was conceived when our community was riding high off the internet boom and the flow of money was endless. Obviously this is no longer the case and I would hope that more modest heads would prevail. Thanks for your time.

4  
SEPA11

Mary Lasley

**Eric Friedli - Magnuson Park**

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**From:** <slasley@chubb.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/25/2002 12:43 PM  
**Subject:** Magnuson Park

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Dear Mr. Friedli,

I am a resident in the neighborhood that looks directly over Magnuson Park and would be directly impacted by high intensity lights from the 11 sports fields, I strongly object to the amount of light pollution that these lights would cause. I attended the meeting in which the lights were exhibited, the halo and glare was clearly reflected directly into the neighborhood from the 3 lights, it would be considerably more of a problem if you approve the lighting of 11 fields.

As a current user of Magnuson park for riding bikes, using the playground, swimming, rollerblading and kite flying I am also concerned with the impact of the park use for the local community vs. being a drawing place for the entire city at all hours of the day and night. We have also enjoyed walking the trails and identifying local wildlife in the park, it is my understanding that this also may be negatively impacted by the lighting and the human density.

Please realize that I am a proponent of the parks system as I do have 2 young boys that play a number of sports, however I do not think it makes sense to negatively impact a community/neighborhood with the addition of 80 poles and 640 luminaires.

If the sports fields must be built, please consider a lesser number with no lights. If lights are a must then they should not be allowed to operate until 11:00. People are flexible in their approach to ideas, but at this point it has felt like we have had no impact in these decisions, it seems to be the park systems way or the highway.

My gut feel is that this is a grand plan that was conceived when our community was riding high off the internet boom and building like the flow of money was endless, obviously that is no longer the case and I would hope that more modest heads would prevail.

Thanks for your time.

Scott Lasley

Please see responses  
to comments  
contained in Letter I166.

**Eric Friedli - Magnuson Park Draft EIS - comments**

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**From:** Ann Lennartz <annlennartz@earthlink.net>  
**To:** "Friedli, Eric, Planning & Operations Director" <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/28/2002 5:02 PM  
**Subject:** Magnuson Park Draft EIS - comments

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2.28.02

Mr. Eric Friedli, Planning and Operations Director  
Seattle Parks And Recreation  
Sand Point Magnuson Park  
7400 Sand Point Way NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

Dear Mr Friedli,

I respectfully submit the following comments on the Sand Point Magnuson Park - Drainage, Wetland/Habitat Complex and Sports Fields/Courts Project - Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Please acknowledge receipt of this email via return email:

***Phasing and funding of the proposed actions:***

Numbered phases show proposed beginning dates for many activities, including excavation of the wetlands, but no milestones, benchmarks, ending dates by which to judge progress in meeting project/activity objectives, including wetland/habitat restoration and successful completion of required mitigation. Milestones, benchmarks, end dates, by which to assess project completion, function, success (in the case of creation of wetlands and satisfying mitigation requirements) should be included. Phase 4 indicates completion of wetland habitat excavation but does not indicate completion (including performance standards which cover wetland functions and plant community composition) in terms of revegetation and establishing a functioning wetland.

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PD1

The project/activity phase descriptions are not accompanied by timelines or funding lines. Currently about 12 million dollars are allocated for this project. If no additional funding were available in subsequent years, how would athletic field, wetland complex, and parking lot construction be phased, and how would mitigation requirements be met? An alternative should indicate which activities would be funded with the original funding, and which activities are dependant upon raising additional funds.

***Vegetation Management Plan***

The EIS should incorporate the approved Vegetation Management Plan, particularly as it incorates the use of large trees, especially in or near the wetland complex area. Cross-referencing between the Vegetation Management Plan and the DEIS is too difficult.

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PD4

The DEIS does not address the specific kinds of native plant vegetation and native plant communities to be employed in the wetland complex/habitat area. An explicit, phased planting scheme for the wetland complex/habitat area should be included.

***Post Construction Monitoring of wetland/habitat areas***

It is essential to specify and fund post-construction monitoring to assure that the designed areas are

3  
WET1

functioning as predicted and specified.

Sincerely,  
Ann Lennartz  
603 - 37th Ave.  
Seattle, WA 98122

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WET1  
(cont'd)

**Eric Friedli - DEIS: pedestrian and cross country trails**

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**From:** Anne Lester <adlester@earthlink.net>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/28/2002 4:28 PM  
**Subject:** DEIS: pedestrian and cross country trails

---

Dear Eric,

I'm writing to ask that you and your staff review carefully the proposed trails as described in the DEIS to make certain they are absolutely clear. A major improvement would be for the drawings - Figure 2.2-3 - to clearly delineate the *existing* paths and trails and make it clear what, if anything would change about them under the proposed plan.

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PD8

Thank you.

Anne Lester

**Eric Friedli - DEIS : Sand Point/Magnuson Park**

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**From:** Anne Lester <adlester@earthlink.net>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/28/2002 4:50 PM  
**Subject:** DEIS : Sand Point/Magnuson Park  
**CC:** <judy.nicastro@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <peter.steinbrueck@ci.seattle.wa.us>

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Dear Eric,

I'm writing as a member of the Board of the Sand Point Community Housing Association to express my deep dismay over the DEIS for Sand Point Magnuson Park which neglects almost totally to recognize the staggering impact the proposal will have on our residents at Sand Point. Many of the residents' homes are literally within a stone's throw of the proposed fields. Close to 200 people currently live in the the Park in our beautifully renovated housing, and when we complete Phase 2 of the planned housing program another 100 units - all very close to the proposed fields will be occupied. That means that several hundred people will be looking into bright lights - many aimed directly into their homes, bedrooms, living rooms, kitchens - every night until 11:00 PM. Imagine the impact on families putting their young children to bed in such an environment. Lights, noise, traffic until 11:00 o'clock.

I understand there is a pressing need for sports fields, but surely there must be a better effort to balance the needs of the various constituencies. The sports enthusiasts will play their games, say, once or twice a week, and then after dark will return to their homes in quiet, peaceful neighborhoods with modest street lights showing them the way. Our residents will have no such escape. Borrowing the contemporary lingo, it's reasonable to say that the massive proposed lighting for them will be 24/7.

With the City's help, support and encouragement we have created an innovative, enormously successful transitional housing program at Sand Point. I urge you to find better alternatives than those contained in the DEIS so that we don't jeopardize the lives of our vulnerable residents.

Thank you,

Anne D. Lester  
8001 Sand Point Way NE, C-58  
Seattle, WA 98115  
206 522-1815

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L&G2

NOI1

3  
SEPA3

MARY + JOSEPH LI  
7317 58<sup>th</sup> AVE NE  
98115

2/4/02  
9:10 AM phone call

west of pent - lived there for 30 years

Traffic, crime, noise common

Waste of money, Waste of energy

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TRAN1  
PSU1  
NOI1  
SEPA11  
ENR1

**Eric Friedli - Sand Point draft EIS- sports field lighting**

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**From:** <Libbyhk@aol.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/11/2002 8:48 PM  
**Subject:** Sand Point draft EIS- sports field lighting

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I've read the information in the newsletter sent to Sand Point Magnuson Park neighbors. I am concerned about the number of lighted sports fields planned, even in the "lesser capacity" alternative. I noticed a different glow toward the lake on the nights sample "cut off" lighting was tested. Your newsletter said the sky glow impact was insignificant. I disagree. As someone who purchased her home for the day and night views, and who pays a premium in property taxes for view property, any impact is significant. I suggest you increase the number of all-weather surfaced fields and light only a couple fields to increase field availability.

1  
L&G2  
SEPA3

**Eric Friedli - Magnusson Park development**

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**From:** Jim madden <ljmadden\_2000@yahoo.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/14/2002 10:54 AM  
**Subject:** Magnusson Park development

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Your "draft environmental report" is very interesting . I believe that you have done an excellent analysis and evaluation . My only suggestion is that some consideration be given to commercial entertainment /dinning.

Some elderly people would like to have a nice place to dine as well as to picnic . Has there been thought given to a Marina for small watercraft . How about a tennis center with instruction and indoor facilities ?Maybe even a 9 hole golf course like the one at Interbay.

I believe that controlled sources of income will help with the overall maintaince of the entire facility and provide for the recreation and entertainment. A restaurant similar to what is at Shilshole would or should be welcome.

Yes , I know some people will object to anything but I believe that we must provide for the continued development and maintaince of this wonderful property . Congratulations on the work you have done to date.

L James Madden  
4545 Sand Point Way NE  
Seattle ,WA 98105

---

Do You Yahoo!?  
Send FREE Valentine eCards with Yahoo! Greetings!  
<http://greetings.yahoo.com>

1  
PD10

Janet Manos  
7337 58<sup>th</sup> Ave NE  
Seattle WA 98115

February 25, 2002

Eric Friedli  
Director of Operations  
Sand Point/Magnuson Park  
7400 Sand Point Way  
Seattle WA 98115

Dear Mr. Friedli:

This letter is written in protest of the lighted sports field proposal for Magnuson Park. Our family has lived in the same home in View Ridge since it was built in 1950. Not only will the proposed lighting for sports fields negatively impact the quality of life we have enjoyed there, but more importantly, the plan is socially irresponsible as well. I am requesting that the city at least downsize the number of proposed fields and forgo **all** of the proposed lighting.

1  
SEPA3

The negative effects of the proposed plan will be to completely change the character of the View Ridge and surrounding neighborhoods. The nighttime views of most of the people residing on the eastward-facing hill will be ruined. We are very familiar with Laurelhurst Park and we witnessed the strength of the light from the tennis courts, which were much fewer in number. Those lights could be seen for many miles around in many directions. Multiplying the number to that such as proposed produces a distressing picture in my mind.

2  
L&G2

I have studied the DEIS and find it very lacking in information. The facts appear to have been painted with a subjective brush that puts a more positive slant on the proposal than common sense would impart. The most disturbing factor to me is that nothing is said about the expenditure of funds and electricity. A call had to be placed to the parks department to ascertain how the lights would operate. Not only will more expense be incurred in lighting the fields, but also a staff person will have to be paid to program the timing of lighting. More staff time will be used in billing some of the users of the fields. In addition, people create litter, so a maintenance staff will not only spend hours keeping up the fields etc. but hours will be spent in keeping the areas clean.

3  
SEPA4

Notwithstanding all of these negatives, the overriding problem I see is that this use of electricity is very irresponsible. How can the city ask people to use less electricity in their homes while they look out their windows and see the **glaring** waste of power at the park? Are the planners aware that in such an established neighborhood, many of the residents are elderly and will not receive ANY benefit whatsoever from the fields, lights and other "improvements"? Yet they will be asked to pay through taxes to receive nothing but a loss in their quality of life. While five states have implemented some lighting restrictions, why is Seattle planning more uses and wasting of our valuable electricity resources just so a relative few can play ball later into the night? Furthermore, the project will not be completed for ten years, so the impact cannot be completely understood in the context of energy needs at that time. This just does not make sense to me and my conscience will not allow me to sit by and not object!

4  
ENR1  
SEPA7  
SEPA10

Thank you for considering these concerns and changing your proposals to some which are much more community friendly and fiscally and environmentally responsible.

Sincerely,



Janet Manos

Nancy Manos  
C/o Janet Manos  
7337 58<sup>th</sup> Ave NE  
Seattle WA 98115

February 25, 2002

Eric Friedli  
Director of Operations  
Sand Point/Magnuson Park  
7400 Sand Point Way  
Seattle WA 98115

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Thank you for considering these concerns and changing your proposals to some which are much more community friendly and fiscally and environmentally responsible.

Sincerely,



Nancy Manos

Please  
see  
responses  
to  
comments  
contained  
in Letter  
I188

DENIS MARTYNOWYCH

February 18, 2002

Eric Friedli, Operations and Planning Director  
Sand Point Magnuson park  
7400 Sand Point Way NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

Dear Mr Friedli:

I am writing to express my serious concerns with the proposal to light eleven sport fields at Magnuson Park. There are many positive plans for Sand Point described in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement but the massive scale of the sports field lighting generates many problems:

- 1) It is unfair to make Magnuson Park contain the highest concentration of lighted sports fields in the city (11 at Magnuson Park versus 47 scattered throughout the city). Spreading the need for lighted fields around the city is more equitable, reduces traffic and noise at any one site, reduces energy and pollution due to shorter vehicular travel time, and reduces light, glare and sky glow at any one site.
- 2) Despite the use of some shielded lighting, many of the poles will face the hillside homes. The site demonstration proved that even with cut-off shields, serious glare was still experienced by many of the homes. Residents could see the direct glare from the lights in their bedrooms and living rooms.
- 3) The impact of 640,000 watts of light will be especially significant because of how much these lights will contrast what is now an essentially dark area. This sharp contrast will intensify the starkness compared with introducing this much light into an area that is already well illuminated.
- 4) With use expanding from 3,700 hours to 20,000 hours noise concerns are real. The noise from events at Sand Point is audible in most parts of the View Ridge neighborhood and is much more noticeable in the evening when there is an absence of masking noise.
- 5) The DEIS admits that the lighting will have a significant negative impact on many species of birds. These concerns are echoed in the March-April 2000 issue of Audubon Magazine which discusses at length the difficulties migrating birds experiences from excessive night lighting. The lights will also affect the feeding and breeding behavior of animals. With the size of the existing and proposed wildlife habitat and wetlands next to the fields many creatures will be harmed.

**Please scale back the number of lighted fields to three** with none of those being baseball fields because of their especially problematic lighting needs. It is also important to reduce the hours the lighting can be on. Lights should be turned off by 9 PM, which is as late as children would be using the fields, and at least a couple of nights a week, especially on Sunday, should be light free.

1  
SEPA1

2  
L&G2

3  
NOI1

4  
WDLF1

5  
SEPA3

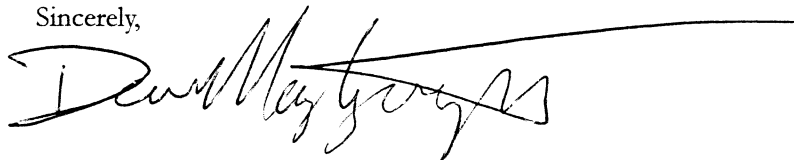
February 18, 2002

Appoint a diverse group of wildlife experts, park and sports field users and neighborhood residents to a committee to review the actual impact of those three fields after two years of use to determine if it is prudent to light any additional fields.

Magnuson Park is an incredible opportunity and a rare treasure. Let's proceed cautiously and in phases so that there is ample time to get feedback if the right planning choices are being made.

5  
SEPA3  
(cont'd)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Denis Martynowych", with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Denis Martynowych

Judy Manos McDonald  
C/o Janet Manos  
7337 58<sup>th</sup> Ave NE  
Seattle WA 98115

February 25, 2002

Eric Friedli  
Director of Operations  
Sand Point/Magnuson Park  
7400 Sand Point Way  
Seattle WA 98115

Dear Mr. Friedli:

This letter is written in protest of the lighted sports field proposal for Magnuson Park. Our family has lived in the same home in View Ridge since it was built in 1950. Not only will the proposed lighting for sports fields negatively impact the quality of life we have enjoyed there, but more importantly, the plan is socially irresponsible as well. I am requesting that the city at least downsize the number of proposed fields and forgo **all** of the proposed lighting.

The negative effects of the proposed plan will be to completely change the character of the View Ridge and surrounding neighborhoods. The nighttime views of most of the people residing on the eastward-facing hill will be ruined. We are very familiar with Laurelhurst Park and we witnessed the strength of the light from the tennis courts, which were much fewer in number. Those lights could be seen for many miles around in many directions. Multiplying the number to that such as proposed produces a distressing picture in my mind.

I have studied the DEIS and find it very lacking in information. The facts appear to have been painted with a subjective brush that puts a more positive slant on the proposal than common sense would impart. The most disturbing factor to me is that nothing is said about the expenditure of funds and electricity. A call had to be placed to the parks department to ascertain how the lights would operate. Not only will more expense be incurred in lighting the fields, but also a staff person will have to be paid to program the timing of lighting. More staff time will be used in billing some of the users of the fields. In addition, people create litter, so a maintenance staff will not only spend hours keeping up the fields etc. but hours will be spent in keeping the areas clean.

Notwithstanding all of these negatives, the overriding problem I see is that this use of electricity is very irresponsible. How can the city ask people to use less electricity in their homes while they look out their windows and see the **glaring** waste of power at the park? Are the planners aware that in such an established neighborhood, many of the residents are elderly and will not receive ANY benefit whatsoever from the fields, lights and other "improvements"? Yet they will be asked to pay through taxes to receive nothing but a loss in their quality of life. While five states have implemented some lighting restrictions, why is Seattle planning more uses and wasting of our valuable electricity resources just so a relative few can play ball later into the night? Furthermore, the project will not be completed for ten years, so the impact cannot be completely understood in the context of energy needs at that time. This just does not make sense to me and my conscience will not allow me to sit by and not object!

Thank you for considering these concerns and changing your proposals to some which are much more community friendly and fiscally and environmentally responsible.

Sincerely,

*Judy L. McDonald*

Judy Manos McDonald

Please  
see  
responses  
to  
comments  
contained  
in Letter  
1188

**Eric Friedli - Sand Point Magnuson Park**

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**From:** "akmhome" <akmhome@attbi.com>  
**To:** <Eric.Friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/16/2002 5:27 PM  
**Subject:** Sand Point Magnuson Park

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Eric

Who can I email to get a clarification on the design for the fields at Sand Point for the following question/s on the orientation of the lights for the proposed ball fields?

It appears that (in the current park design) the brightest and tallest lights, which I assume would be the outfield lights for the baseball fields shining in toward home plate, would be oriented to shine toward the mainland (ie View Ridge, Windermere, etc).

If that is the case, why could/should not the fields be rotated about 180deg so the lights would shine toward the north end of the lake?

Thank you for your help.

Alan

Alan K Miller  
POB 51162  
Seattle WA 98115

1  
PD9

6057 Ann Arbor Ave. NE  
Seattle, WA 98115-7618  
February 27, 2002

Eric Friedli, Director  
Planning and Operations  
Sand Point/Magnuson Park  
Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation  
7400 Sand Point Way NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

Dear Eric:

Thank you for accepting a few additional comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Drainage, Wetland/Habitat Complex and Sports Field/Courts Project at Sand Point/Magnuson Park.

- One very glaring fault with the Draft Environmental Impact Statement is that it states that any new plantings, including the wetland/drainage area, will be consistent with the goals and objectives established in the Vegetation Management Plan. I very definitely heard stated more than once during the planning process for the VMP that the plan dealt only with the existing vegetation and not with the future development of the sports fields, drainage, and wetlands areas. The Vegetation Management Plan for this area was presented as being a separate entity and not a part of the VMP that was accepted for other parts of the park.
- Another problem that needs to be addressed in the EIS is the time line for the various parts of the project. I am particularly concerned that none of the Alternatives present any kind of scheduling of development. Will all of the ball fields be done first? Moreover, if no more money is forthcoming, how will the money from the Pro Parks Levy be spent?
- Lighting is a big issue and the DEIS doesn't address the cumulative effects of the unshielded lights currently in the park nor the proposed lighting of the OLA, Community Garden, and the parking lots.

1  
PD4

2  
PD1

3  
L&G3

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

*Bonnie E. Miller*

Bonnie E. Miller



## DEIS Hearing Comment Form

If you have comments to share with us about the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, you can write them below and leave them with us. You can also fold and mail this comment sheet to the address printed on the reverse side. Eric Friedli's email address is:

eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us

Thank you for allowing me to make another comment about the DEIS. When I had my comment recorded at the public hearing on Monday evening, I neglected to address one item.

What studies have there been to determine the effect of the lights in the parking lots on the surrounding wildlife, neighborhoods, transitional housing on the former Naval base, and the expanded University of Washington married student housing at the site of the former Navy housing project? Shouldn't the EIS address more in depth the lights from the parking lots?

Thank you.

Bonnie Miller  
6057 Ann Arbor Ave. NE  
Seattle, WA 98115-7618

4  
L&G2

Please mail your comments to us by February 28th, 2001.

Hand Delivered <sup>1</sup> Kate Morgan

February 24, 2002

To: Eric Friedli

From: Kate Morgan

Re: Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Sand Point Magnuson Park

Drainage, Wetland/Habitat Complex and Sports Fields/Courts Project

I am submitting my comments on the DEIS.

I am disturbed and dismayed by the DEIS. This DEIS is nothing more than a booster club for the proposed plan. The purpose of the DEIS is to examine and address the impact of the entire plan on the environment, including all residents, human and animal, of Magnuson Park, Windermere, View Ridge and Hawthorne Hills. These impacts include:

1  
SEPA4

#### Noise

#### Night Lighting

#### Traffic

#### Drainage

### 1. Noise

~ The DEIS does not address the city's noise ordinance. Allowing the sports fields to remain in operation until 11 PM will violate the city's own noise ordinances.

~ The DEIS did not address the "amphitheater effect" of noise on the surrounding neighborhoods of View Ridge and Windermere. Two important facts about noise are that it carries and it rises.

~ The DEIS describes the anticipated noise levels as consistent with background noise. This blatantly minimizes the effects. I believe the noise of 2 or 3 fields being used during the day is actually enjoyable background noise. However, the effect of 11 fields in use, plus tennis courts, (we might be talking 750+ excited people) at 10 or 11 at night is not background noise. I have read one estimate of 55-60 dBA. The city's after dark noise ordinance is 45dBA. My understanding is that anything over 55dBA disrupts sleep.

~ The DEIS does not acknowledge the difference between daytime and nighttime noise. A fair amount of noise during the day can be tolerated because of ambient noise (lawn mowers, radios, normal traffic). The impact of the same amount of noise at night with little to zero ambient noise is far greater. **Currently, the loudest noise I can hear from my yard at 10 PM is the sound of the frogs in the park.**

2  
NOI2

3  
NOI1

### 2. Night Lighting

~ The DEIS has failed to provide data on the effects of night lighting and justifies this by describing the effects as unquantifiable. If, indeed, this is the case, then the presumption must be against any night lighting at all until such time as quantifiable data can be obtained.

~ I am most disturbed by the future harmful effects on birds and wildlife by the extreme extension of artificial daylight. These harmful effects include disruption of migratory behavior, increased predation and disruption of nesting behavior.

~ The DEIS refers to the Night Lighting Demonstrations that were done in October. This was an inadequate demonstration. The demonstrations included 3 poles with 12 luminaries. The demonstration should have included 80 poles, with 640 luminaries. It

4  
L&G1

5  
WDLF1

6  
L&G2

should have included all Parks Board members viewing the lights from selected residences ranging from Santos House all the way up the hill to the top of View Ridge. Had this been done there would be no quibbling about the effects of night lighting.

~ In addressing issues of light and glare, the DEIS does not acknowledge the full impact of all the proposed plans at Magnuson Park. In addition to the most massively lit sports complex in the northwest (according to the Parks Departments own people), there will be lighting of parking lots, security lighting of the proposed convenience buildings in and around the fields, proposed lighting for the Off Leash Area, as well as security lighting for 400 new units at Radford Court. The combined effect should be addressed.

~ When addressing the effects of glare and trespass, the DEIS does not acknowledge the visual and psychological impact of such a massive lighting project in the midst of the pitch black background of the park and Lake Washington. This is not an inconsequential issue. Like noise, the perception of glare is relative to the ambient light.

### 3. Transportation

~ There are glaring errors in the mathematics used to describe the percentage of increased traffic.

~ The DEIS did not address public transportation issues. If the Parks Department wants a massive sports site it should have selected an area better served by public transportation. Magnuson Park is accessible by one bus route.

~ The DEIS did not address potential for traffic line ups on Sand Point Way all the way to COH or farther to 45<sup>th</sup> at the evening commute hours. The DEIS brushes off the impact of east west traffic on 65<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup>.

### 4. Drainage

~ The DEIS does not address runoff from the sports fields.

~ The DEIS does not address the incompatibility of the sports fields with wetlands.

~ The DEIS does not include any information on how the water runoff from parking lots and fields will be cleaned up **before** it reaches the wetland habitats. Indeed, it appears that the Parks Department is planning to use the wetland habitats to clean the runoff before it hits the lake.

1. **As a public document, the DEIS is a failure.** It is lacking reliable technical information. With the exception of the DEIS admission of the negative effects on migratory birds of night lighting, the DEIS either does not address the negative impacts at all, dismisses them as negligible, or deems them to be unquantifiable.

2. **The DEIS failed to examine off-site alternatives.** Off-site alternatives would include a combination of rehabbing old fields already in existence and adding additional sports fields in parks throughout the city if necessary. This demographic distribution of fields would benefit everyone. This project is required, by law, to examine off-site alternatives as part of the EIS process. So far it has failed.

3. **The DEIS is being conducted in a piecemeal manner.** Nowhere are the combined, total effects of the entire Sand Point Magnuson Park development addressed. It appears that the Parks Department is attempting to hide the size, scope and effect of the entire process of developing the park by breaking up the Environmental Impact Statements into specific projects.

4. **The DEIS does not make any serious attempt to examine a scaled down version of the plan.** This could have been done by proposing reduced hours of operation, reduced lighting or scattering the play fields around the city.

5. **The Impact on transitional housing residents.** The DEIS simply brushes off the negative impacts of all these issues on the residents of Building 224 at Magnuson Park. If you read this document with the transitional housing residents at Santos House in mind it becomes apparent that from the Parks Department perspective they should just wear ear plugs, install black out shades, or preferably, take a hike. The DEIS attitude toward the residents of Santos House and the wildlife in the area is "deal with it".

14  
L&G2  
NOI1

6. **The DEIS describes the Magnuson Park area as "highly urbanized".** This is blatantly false. The entire Everett to Tacoma corridor may be highly urbanized, but there are quite a number of places within the area that are not. The fact is, at night, Sand Point Magnuson Park is almost pitch dark and is almost completely silent except for the sound of frogs.

15  
SEPA8  
L&G1

7. **The DEIS does not address mitigation issues.** No mention is made of plantings that would block noise and glare. No mention is made of scaling the lighting down to less than Grade III and IV standards.

16  
SEPA18

8. **The DEIS does not address funding contingencies.** For example, if there is enough money to construct the play fields but not enough to do any of the wet lands work, where will that leave the project. There are start dates, a 10 year time line, but no mention of how additional funds will be acquired to complete the project.

17  
PD1

#### **Lights=Water=Salmon**

I would like to record my opposition to any lighting of the play fields. I believe that it is possible to improve the quality of life for sports enthusiasts without night lighting. I question night lighting of play fields in view of the expense and in view of the increased use of power at a time when all residents should be relearning habits of consumption and acquiring new habits of conservation. **At a time when other, more forward looking communities, are passing ordinances requiring reduced outdoor lighting, the Seattle Parks Department is proposing to crank it up. In our area, lights equal power which equals water which equals fish habitat.**

18  
S/O4  
ENR1  
SEPA10

#### **Sports Fields for All Neighborhoods**

I would like to record my opposition to the creation of such a massive complex of fields in one place. Many different neighborhoods around Seattle need fields. Children should be able to reach fields on foot, by bicycle, by bus or by car. A plan to provide more sports fields should include rehabbing existing fields and adding new fields to existing parks.

**Spreading the amenities throughout the city is better than trying to create the "single largest lighted sports field complex in the northwest" in one location. The former is a delight, the latter is a nightmare.**

19  
SEPA1  
SEPA3

Respectfully

Kate Morgan

cc: Bob Lucas, View Ridge Community Club  
Seattle City Council  
Seattle Parks Department Board

**Eric Friedli - Re: Lighting Sand Point Fields is a Dreadful Idea.**

---

**From:** Dewey Potter  
**To:** "wm.murray@att.net".Internet2.RES01  
**Date:** 2/11/2002 4:27 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Lighting Sand Point Fields is a Dreadful Idea.  
**CC:** Eric Friedli

---

Dear Mr. Murray,

Thank you for your e-mail. I'm not a member of the City Council, but the communications manager for Seattle Parks and Recreation.

By copy of this reply I will forward your e-mail to Eric Friedli, who is collecting comments on the draft environmental impact statement on the drainage and wetlands/sportsfields and courts project proposed for Sand Point Magnuson Park.

Following completion of the Final EIS this summer, and when a recommendation on the project is forwarded to the Mayor and City Council later this year, your comments will be in the record.

Sincerely,

(Ms.)Dewey Potter  
 Communications Manager  
 Seattle Parks and Recreation

>>> "Bill Murray" <wm.murray@att.net> 02/11/02 04:18PM >>>  
 Dear Councilman Potter,

I once believed that the addition of sports fields at the Sand Point complex would be a positive contribution to the community.

I was wrong.

Having seen the negative impact of the token sample of proposed lighting, I believe that the most positive elements of sports and sportsfields, combined, could never outweigh the negative impact on the community, the culture, and the environment.

Even ignoring the over-zealous, almost-400% increase, from four to fifteen fields, of what is already one of the larger sports field resources, the lighting proposal borders on the profane.

One of the hallmarks of Quality of Life in Seattle, "The Emerald City", and the Pacific Northwest, is our respect for nature, the environment, and an active, gracious lifestyle.

Lighting these fields, ANY of them, is COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE. Light pollution and noise from the natural amphitheater of Sand Point will most negatively impact not just the immediate neighborhood, but the entire north end of Lake Washington. Any pretense of respect for wildlife, the environment, families, or tax-paying citizens and homeowners, is a sham.

1  
L&G2  
NOI1  
WDLF1

I greatly appreciate the positive effects of and benefits from organized sports. But those benefits will never come close to out-weighing the negative impact of lighting the proposed fields. If you have ever driven past the mini-Hell of Marymoor on a rainy evening, despite their having only TWO fields (about 18% of the Sand Point proposal) lit on a regular basis, can appreciate the horrific results of the Sand Point proposal. I talked with players on a women's soccer team at Marymoor the other night, and even *they* have very mixed feelings about that site; only one in eight *of the players* thought lighting at Sand Point was an acceptable idea.

No lighting. Bad idea. People do not need to play organized sports deep into the night. If you truly care about quality of life in Seattle, opt for No Lights, and no more than 10 playing fields, total. Compromising with "a limited number of lit fields" is like being "a little bit pregnant" or "having a little bit of Plague". There is no viable compromise.

2  
S/O4

With deep conviction,

Bill Murray

Bill Murray   Marketing Communications  
Storyteller in Multiple Media  
Co-Pres. Northwest Screenwriters Guild  
206-264-5454 voice-page-fax ICQ 3046662  
[www.bluescooter.net](http://www.bluescooter.net)   [www.nwsg.org](http://www.nwsg.org)

**Eric Friedli - Re: Lighting Sports Fields at Magnuson Park: NO**

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**From:** "Bill Murray" <wm.murray@att.net>  
**To:** "Magnuson Park Lighting" <wm.murray@att.net>  
**Date:** 2/28/2002 2:40 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Lighting Sports Fields at Magnuson Park: NO

---

Dear Mayor Nichols, Seattle City Council, and Park Folks,

While I support the use of Magnuson Park as a site for a number of sports fields, I am completely opposed to the lighting of the fields.

I have seen a mere hint of the highly invasive effects of the proposed lighting from the test showing, and am convinced that this will change, unalterably and forever, a resource precious and unique to Seattle, and a quality that defines the Pacific Northwest.

Space. Solitude. Silence.

These are elements increasingly to be treasured in our turbo-charged urban environment. And we have such a treasure, a space for respite nearly in the heart of the city, available and accessible. An escape from the city, yet still in the city.

Visit the play fields at Marymoor. With only two of the fields lit, with only two games going, and any hopes for silence or solitude are brutally dashed.

Lighting of the intensity required for nighttime sports is uncompromisingly incompatible with any pretext of maintaining a nature preserve. The lights will simultaneously destroy both the nighttime environment of wildlife, and the view of thousands of homeowners who have paid a substantial premium over the years for both property and property taxes on that view, and a neighborhood personality and atmosphere that will never be peaceful again.

Picture cars parked on the sidewalk in front of your house, headlights pointed in your front window. With ongoing tailgate parties. Every night. Until 11:00. In front of your house, not just someone else's.

Worse, I don't believe you have any concept of the horrifying extent of light pollution the proposed lighting will create, which will affect not just the immediate View Ridge neighbors, but the entire north end of Lake Washington. This impact will not be appreciated until it is too late. This will definitely not increase overall Quality of Life in Seattle.

"Mitigate" is defined as "to make less severe, intense, or painful..."

There are some things that cannot be "mitigated". There is no such thing as "slightly pregnant", "moderately dead", or "partly lit". As a Director of Photography for still and film, I work with light as my prime tool every day. No amount of so-called lighting control, however sophisticated, can possibly mitigate the effects of lighting the proposed sports fields. This kind of lighting is simply not containable.

Last, I marvel that we are even considering such an extravagant, exorbitant, and elaborate project at a time when we are closing parks with improvements no higher tech than an unlit path. This seems either highly irresponsible, or disingenuous, or the economics in the political arena must work very differently than they do here in The Real World.

3  
S/O4

4  
L&G2  
NOI1  
WDLF1

5  
SEPA11

**Eric Friedli - Comments on Sand Point/Magnuson Park Draft EIS**

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**From:** <KNe2779578@aol.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/15/2002 10:58 AM  
**Subject:** Comments on Sand Point/Magnuson Park Draft EIS  
**CC:** <Mayors.Office@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <dewey.potter@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <jim.compton@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <richard.conlin@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <jan.drago@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <nick.licata@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <richard.mciver@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <judy.nicastro@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <margaret.pageler@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <peter.steinbrueck@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <heidi.wills@ci.seattle.wa.us>

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Dear Mr. Friedli,

I am writing in regards to the Draft EIS for Magnuson Park. As a soccer player, and soccer coach for my daughter's 7 year old team, as resident and homeowner of the slope above the park in the View Ridge neighborhood, as a dog owner, and as an environmentally-minded citizen and professional, I have very mixed feelings about the redevelopment proposals for the park. I do feel we desperately need more playfields in the city and in this particular region of Seattle. I also feel it is critical that we maintain and enhance the few remaining wetlands we have - particularly those so closely linked to the Lake Washington system and in our urban, high use areas. As a dogowner, I feel it is important to have offleash areas in city neighborhoods, but not at great expense to the environment. With these general comments in mind, and having stated my personal stake in these issues, I proceed to more specific concerns.

Re: Off leash areas: They need to be carefully chosen for minimal environmental impact. The off leash beach area currently in the park cannot support the huge number of dogs using the area, and is a major source of erosion and sediment runoff into the lake. I believe the environmentally-fragile beach area should not be included in any offleash area, and immediately closed to protect water quality and the shoreline.

1  
SEPA5

Re: wetlands - I do not feel that any of the classified wetlands should be filled or substantially compromised to accommodate other uses. As an ecologist, I believe that we need to retain what little we have in urban areas. We have for too many years sacrificed these areas for other uses and we simply cannot afford to continue doing so if we also expect to have clean and available water, and the wildlife that is dependent on them.

2  
WET2

Re: soccer fields - We need fields very badly. However, I am not in favor of living above a "Marymoor Park" area with bright lights every night until 11PM. I think this will substantially alter the current character of the neighborhood that I and many others in this area treasure. For this reason I would advocate a compromise, addressing the lights issue with as much technology as possible to avoid light scatter, lights being used when not needed, and lighting of too many of the fields.

3  
L&G2

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Nelson  
7051 54th Ave NE  
Seattle 98115

## Eric Friedli - RESPONSE TO DEIS AND LIGHTING SAND POINT/MAGNUSON

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**From:** <Mjnemitz@aol.com>  
**To:** <richard.conlin@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <judy.nicastro@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 1/28/2002 11:55 PM  
**Subject:** RESPONSE TO DEIS AND LIGHTING SAND POINT/MAGNUSON

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I am opposed to lighting fields at Magnuson. I am in favor of having sports fields without lighting. The impact on the neighbors views and the impact on traffic and noise is astronomical; not to mention the impact the wildlife at the park. Please do not light the fields at Magnuson.

The DEIS does not fully or realistically reveal the true impact of lighting fields at Magnuson. You had to see it to believe what 3 lights did to the area!

Marsha Nemitz, View Ridge resident and Trustee

1  
L&G2  
WDLF1

**Eric Friedli - Sand Point Magnuson Park DEIS**

**From:** <Mjnemitz@aol.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/28/2002 3:10 PM  
**Subject:** Sand Point Magnuson Park DEIS

Dear Mr. Friedli:

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Sand Point Magnuson Park Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Sand Point Magnuson Park is a precious whole. This fabulous resource needs to be considered as a whole, and I feel we need more study and research on planning for the final EIS.

I have given a great deal of thought to the park and its future and my comments concern the DEIS and its shortcomings--and my concern about sportsfields and lighting same. I hope these concerns will be read and addressed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

#### Lighting:

\* The Draft Environmental Impact Statement does not adequately measure the increased levels of lighting within the proposed wetlands or along the lake shore. A lighting study would likely find that the level of lighting has been underestimated.

It is well known that extended daylength triggers physiology and changes behavior around feeding & breeding and thus, changes the population density of wildlife. Artificial lighting is known to disorient migratory birds and increase mortality.

\* The DEIS does not propose mitigation measures (a no lighting alternative, limiting lighting hours, planting vegetation screens) to alleviate these effects on wildlife.

\* Seattle Parks and the City of Seattle need to be very careful in designing lighting systems. Both brightness and the kind of wave length need to be measured to understand their effects on wildlife.

\* The DEIS does not acknowledge that glare is visible from the hillside above the Burke-Gilman Trail. You had to be here that night of the lighting demonstration to see the 3 lights and the impact on our homes. It is hard for us to imagine 100X that glare.

#### Noise

\* The DEIS underestimates the effects of noise on wetland wildlife and on adjacent neighborhoods. A modeling study of sports field noise is needed. Residents who live within the park and the surrounding neighborhoods will be subjected to a significant increase in noise, particularly at night, if the athletic fields are lit until 11pm. This impact needs to be better described. The proposed plan is for 15 sports fields-- more than triple the current number or a 275% increase. It is well known that the current level of activity is audible throughout the View Ridge neighborhood whose hillside is a natural amphitheater with even crickets heard at the top of the hill from below at night. Therefore nighttime noise has its own unique characteristics and challenges. The DEIS fails to consider the absence of masking noise during the night.

\* No mitigation measures for increased noise were addressed.

#### General

\* The DEIS does not include the cumulative impacts of increased lighting, noise and numbers of people from areas outside the scope of this DEIS; off-leash dog area, community garden, buildings, parking lots, tennis courts; on the wetlands and shoreline habitat and wildlife.

\* It does not propose adequate mitigation measures for the increase in traffic, noise and people. Traffic will increase by 2260 more cars per day (night) on nearby arterials. Despite this expansion, DEIS claims project-related increases in traffic volumes would be less than 3 % at most intersections affected, and no more than 7 %. How can you have major

2  
WDLF1

3  
L&G2

4  
NOI1  
WDLF1

5  
NOI4

6  
SEPA5

7  
SEPA8  
TRAN1

expansion and minor congestion?

\* The DEIS does not justify the need for this number of sports fields nor does it consider any off-site alternatives to these fields. The proposed sports fields, if built and lit, will comprise 20% or more of all lit athletic fields in Seattle. 640,000 watts of light will be glaring up the hillside into the homes and bedrooms of many families--and until 11 pm every night of the year. This is a significant undue burden on the neighborhood. This park is the last large open space in northeast Seattle, a natural resource that should be revered and not commercialized and industrialized into a lighted athletic plaza. Magnuson Park, as is, is precious. Please study further and plan with respect the future of this wonderful natural resource. Lighting the fields is not a prudent choice in my opinion.

cc: Mayor Greg Nickels  
City Council and Staff  
C. David Hughbanks and Staff

Marsha Nemitz  
7311 52nd NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

## Eric Friedli - Magnuson Lighting Issue

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**From:** novotny <novotnylaw@attbi.com>  
**To:** <Mayors.office@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <margaret.pageler@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <jim.compton@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <richard.conlin@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <jan.drago@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <nick.licata@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <peter.steinbrueck@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <richard.mciver@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <judy.nicastro@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <heidi.wills@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <ken.bounds@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <cdavid.hughbanks@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/13/2002 12:19 PM  
**Subject:** Magnuson Lighting Issue

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Dear Mayor, Council Members, and Parks Department Staff Members:

I have seen and been alarmed by the proposal to light sports fields at Magnuson Park. I have used that park on an almost daily basis for twenty years and am familiar with the birds and wildlife that depend upon it. I'm also familiar with the increasing data identifying as hazards to birds towering structures and lighted structures, especially when combined (e.g., a lighted towering structure). Migrating birds, in particular, die by the thousands each year as the result of colliding into buildings, transmission towers, lighting towers. There was perhaps a time when much of the damage we as humans did to other species was done out of ignorance of the consequences. That is certainly no longer true. Magnuson Park offers a tiny island of habitat for the wildlife that live in or travel through this region. Its removal (relatively) from the lights and traffic of the rest of the city uniquely situate it as a significant resource for wildlife. Make no mistake, setting the park ablaze with lights will harm these birds and animals. If you must calculate the injury in human terms, please take into account the injury to me and to people like me that is directly incidental to the damage done the birds and animals. It's not that I'm not a sports fan; I've played soccer and softball all my life, and I know you need fields. But we simply cannot gobble up every last bit of space in our urban areas and leave nothing for the wildlife. Please act so that Magnuson remains a hospitable home or stopover for the other species.

Thanks for listening.

Patricia Novotny

1  
WDLF1

## Eric Friedli - Sand Pt./ Mag. Pk. DEIS

**From:** "Carla Okigwe" <cokigwe@attbi.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 1/29/2002 9:10 PM  
**Subject:** Sand Pt./ Mag. Pk. DEIS

Eric: I live just above Sand Point/Magnuson Park and would like to submit comments on the DEIS for the Drainage, Wetlands, Habitat, Sports Fields, Courts Project. Since I am very busy in my nonprofit job, I do not participate in the Sand Point Liaison or View Ridge Community Council, so these comments are separate and uninfluenced by them.

My primary and frequent use of the park is to walk about a 3- mile loop from my house, around the park perimeter, and back from the opposite direction. It is a tragedy that the NOAA property had to be closed off due to the September 11 events. Though not part of your DEIS project, isn't there some way to negotiate protection for the NOAA buildings but still allow pedestrian access to the Sound Garden and other art works along the shore?

Second, again not part of this DEIS project, there needs to be a solution to the off-leash dog crossing across the heavily traveled pedestrian path (though I like dogs, I was walking with a friend who became terrified as several dogs approached her).

1  
SEPA5

Third, re: the DEIS project, some sort of decent and safe sidewalk along 65th out to the shoreline is essential. The current "sort of sidewalk" street edge with deep puddles, rubble, etc. is neither safe nor attractive. The proposal indicates a "primary pedestrian way", but it seems to peter out at a "secondary pedestrian way" through the marshes. People in groups will tend to take to the street if the secondary way is a single-wide, wet path.

2  
PD10

Fourth, I saw the pilot sports field lighting test. It certainly makes the fields look a lovely bright emerald green! However, I am concerned about the plan to keep multiple versions of these lights on until 11 p.m. I understand the need for more sports fields, but I would like to be able to sleep without all that glare. From our house we can already see the Juanita sports fields, the Mercer Island sports fields, etc.--the lights are so bright. The glare essentially takes away the peaceful evening view in those areas. Could the proposed ones be turned off by 9:30 p.m.?

3  
L&G2

Fifth, my greatest concern: NOISE. What isn't perceived by those on the ground at Sand Point is the amphitheater effect we receive from being on the hill. For example, the summer band concerts are as loud in our home as we would play a radio here (meaning we can't listen to anything else). I was shocked one day when I went on my walk down there to realize that once I was down at the same level (e.g. on Sand Point Way), I couldn't hear the band at all. Only when I went up near to the tent could I hear the concert, and then next to the tent I realized the audio system was actually blaring beyond its capacity (it was squawking and crackling). So the people down on the ground have the sound level way beyond loud, because people can't hear it very well from even 100 yards away, and we are suffering up at our home because the sound is loud enough to intrude in our life. There is a similar effect from the Christmas ship caroling and from the rock concerts, and we can hear all the yells and cheers at the games being played. (Likewise, we used to hear--briefly--the Navy's trumpet playing reveille and taps.) Again, I beg, can't the use be stopped by 9:30, so the noise will be finished by 10 p.m.?

4  
NOI1

I worked hard to gain neighborhood support of the City's purchase of the park and walked many streets delivering information to the neighbors' homes. I don't mind a little extra traffic (it mainly doesn't come up here) and I am pleased with the plans to turn the place into a more versatile park and with the reuse of buildings to house the homeless.

But the noise just drives me crazy. I work long and hard days, and afterward I just want to return to a peaceful, calm home. I am trying for a compromise with an earlier curfew, but even as I write this, I think of all the weekend summer days when we were eating outside in the garden with friends, and then some screechy yowls started up from down below. I wish there were way to mitigate the noise so there could be even more concert events, but without that, the number and time of day are about all I can take right now. I do not want the added use of multiple fields with people shouting, celebrating, honking horns at hours past our bed time. Like most people, we

turn our radio and television off so it is quiet when we are sleeping. Why should the City turn the park sound "on"?

Carla Okigwe  
7317 57th Avenue NE  
Seattle, WA 98115  
206/ 522-2281

**Eric Friedli - Protest against Sand Point installation**

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**From:** "Richard O. Phillips" <rphil7ro@attbi.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/20/2002 8:38 AM  
**Subject:** Protest against Sand Point installation

---

I protest the installation of new sports lights at Sand Point. Do not destroy quiet evenings in a quiet neighborhood. We in this neighborhood do not want added noise, lights and traffic to spoil our quiet evenings. Signed Richard O. Phillips (View Ridge Resident)

1  
S/O4  
NOI1  
L&G2  
TRAN1

**Eric Friedli - Re: Kris's speech for Monday Night.**

---

**From:** Eric Friedli  
**To:** "gesand@wolfenet.com".Internet2.RES01; "kristinereed@hotmail.com".Internet2.RES01;  
"rogers@lihi.org".Internet2.RES01  
**Subject:** Re: Kris's speech for Monday Night.

---

Dear Ms. Reed:

Thank you for reviewing the DEIS and preparing your thoughtful comments. You taking the time to participate in this decision-making process is very important. I appreciate you sharing these with me and look forward to seeing you this evening.

Sincerely,  
Eric Friedli

>>> "Kristine Reed" <kristinereed@hotmail.com> 02/02/02 06:10PM >>>  
Here is what I am going to say on Monday night.

Kris

---

Get more from the Web. FREE MSN Explorer download : <http://explorer.msn.com>

Hello, My name is Kristine Reed and I live at Santos Place, building #224. I would like to read some excerpts from your DEIS, and make some comments on them.

### **LIGHTING**

1. One unresolved issue associated with the proposed action concerns the potential for significant adverse impacts from sports field lights on the existing residential area between Sand Point Way NE and the Sportsfield Drive within Sand Point Magnuson Park and possibly on some units in the Radford Court apartment complex. These potential impacts appear to be unavoidable with the project as proposed and evaluation to date has not identified mitigation measures that would necessarily limit these impacts to an insignificant level.
2. Primary exposure of non-park users to direct glare from sports field lights would be in the residential area of Sand Point campus directly west of Sportfield Drive, primarily buildings 224, 6, 26N and 26S.

You say that this is unresolved and unavoidable. Well. I don't think so. You could not light the fields and only use them during daylight hours. My room faces East and I was in my room when the lighting was tested. It was so bright it was obnoxious. Even closing my blinds did not help. I have only one suggestion, if you **MUST** have the lighting, pay for blackout curtains for those places that are impacted. The problem with that idea though is, that if someone is like me and claustrophobic they wouldn't be using the curtains anyway.

3. Current Parks Department policy is to have fields lit until 11pm, 365 days per year. The department says that lights for fields are controlled individually and can be turned off when not in use. However, they expect (based on current demand) that all fields will be in use all the time. This will

include using baseball fields, with the floodlights, during the winter for soccer practice.

1  
L&G2  
(cont'd)

11pm, 365 days a year. That is too much to expect someone to take. Those lights are bright and from the maps there will be a lot of them. Is there going to be someone from the Parks Dept to turn off the lights when they are not in use?

### **NOISE**

1. The DEIS completely ignores operational noise impacts on housing in the park. The housing will be directly next to the fields, parking and Sportsfield Drive which will be the major road running from access roads to the park to parking lots. Parks Department Staff have said that a major reason for having so many fields in one location is to accommodate large tournaments for sports associations. This fact combined with their projection of 100% usage of the fields until 11pm will generate a tremendous amount of noise.

2  
NOI1

Many of the people that live around here are disabled and this kind of noise will severely impact their lives. Are you going to put up sound barriers? Are you going to do anything at all to try and alleviate the noise problem?

### **TRAFFIC**

1. Increased traffic to project site, primarily from users of sports fields and including use of wetland/habitat complex. Proposed project facilities estimated to generate 3,280 daily trips (2,260 Net new trips) at full operation, with a net increase of 307 trips during weekday PM peak hour.
2. Note that page 2-26 shows that these 3 parking lots will have a total of 602 parking spaces which will be it every night past 11pm.

3  
TRAN1

I certainly don't like the idea of lights being on that late at night. I realize that you do need lighting for parking lots. But that many?

3. The majority of the sports field trips would be entering the site during the PM peak hour, because this is when games and practices are typically scheduled to begin, with none or few ending during this time.
4. The DEIS does not discuss the impact of increased traffic on Sportsfield Drive and Sand Point Way on the transitional housing.

3  
TRAN1  
(cont'd)4  
TRAN2

As a person who lives in the transitional housing, I feel like we have been entirely overlooked. ("Oh, that's ok, they won't mind... Etc.") This project will have a huge impact on those of us who live here and **NONE** of it good. Please, take the time and do further studies to make sure the impact on **ALL** of the housing around the park will be taken into consideration.

Thank you.



## DEIS Hearing Comment Form

If you have comments to share with us about the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, you can write them below and leave them with us. You can also fold and mail this comment sheet to the address printed on the reverse side. Eric Friedli's email address is: [eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us](mailto:eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us)

I am the Director of Administration at Friends of Youth, a provider of transitional housing services at Sand Point through the Sand Point Community Housing Association. Soon I will be the Director of Operations for Sand Point Associates, a consortium of agencies (Friends of Youth, YouthCare, and the Low Income Housing Institute) that will operate the Sand Point transitional housing and develop additional housing at the Sand Point location. Following are my summary comments on the Magnuson Park draft EIS:

- The scale of the sports field development and lighting component of the overall project is massive and imposes a vastly disproportionate burden (traffic; light and noise pollution) on the Sand Point community and the surrounding neighborhoods. 1  
L&G2
- The draft EIS fails to propose off-site alternatives as required by the Joint Athletic Fields Development Plan. In addition, the draft EIS is defective in failing to provide off-site alternatives, as required by SEPA. 2  
SEPA1
- The impact of the proposed lighting is substantially understated. It will severely and adversely impact our housing at Sand Point and the surrounding neighborhoods. Overall, the analysis of the lighting impact was egregiously flawed and glossed over the substantial likelihood of an adverse impact. 3  
L&G2
- As with the lighting issue, the draft EIS glosses over the traffic impact on relatively quiet residential streets. 4  
TRAN1
- The sport field development proximate to our Sand Point transitional housing units will severely and adversely impact the families and individuals we are serving at this location. The draft EIS claims that this additional noise "... would not likely be significant in off-site residential areas." Had the noise readings been taken at the location of our facilities, rather than from Sand Point Way, the fallacy of this assertion would have been obvious. And this noise will continue long into the night, beyond 11:00pm, when many of our residents need to be sleeping. 5  
NOI1
- As an environmentalist, I am aghast at the impacts of this proposed plan on the natural environment -- the wetlands, local wildlife, migratory birds, and fish and amphibians in Lake Washington. The City seems determined in supplanting an area that still has some remnant wildness with artificial turf, intensive lighting, pavement, and development. 6  
WDLF1

Overall, my impression is that the draft EIS is severely flawed and seems to have been crafted to justify the plan rather than analyze it. I hope the City will come to its senses and do the right thing by Magnuson Park and its surrounding neighborhoods. 7  
SEPA4

Bob Rench  
Director of Administration  
Friends of Youth  
16225 NE 87<sup>th</sup> St., A-6  
Redmond, WA 98052

home address:  
3420 E. Huron St.  
Seattle, WA 98122

Please mail your comments to us by February 28th, 2001.



## DEIS Hearing Comment Form

If you have comments to share with us about the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, you can write them below and leave them with us. You can also fold and mail this comment sheet to the address printed on the reverse side. Eric Friedli's email address is: [eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us](mailto:eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us)

2/4/02 Magnuson PK feedback

the priorities for this park should be quiet enjoyment of a beautiful natural area. The wetland restoration and natural area in the plan are good. BUT the sports complex is way out of control; traffic, noise, lights, congestion, and, most importantly, loss of natural open space is unacceptably high. Please DO NOT turn Sand Point into another Greenlake or Marymoor Park! Keep Sand Point quiet. A few fields are fine. ADD more trails. The bike path is good. KEEP the off-leash area. BUT REDUCE the sport complex!

Thanks,

Jeff Robbins  
5555 37th Ave NE  
Seattle 98105

## Eric Friedli - Sports Fields Issue

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**From:** <Caidemom@aol.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/27/2002 8:36 PM  
**Subject:** Sports Fields Issue

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Mr. Friedli:

In response to your letter accompanying the draft EIS published in January, 2002, I wish to state that I am opposed to the project as proposed as well as the alternative plan. I see both proposals as reaching for all available land for the use of one group, the competitive sport people. How about the rest of the population? Are they to be closed out of the vast majority of the park area because they don't participate in competitive sports? There is little area left for those who wish to use the park as a quiet haven. Between the sports fields and wetlands not much remains for general public use other than the beach area formerly used for recreation by the Navy, a small percentage of the property.

1  
S/O4

I have viewed the lighted sports areas on the University of Washington campus at night. Perhaps those lights are directed at the field but the direct glare while driving by is quite distracting and does not appear to be directed only at the field. The same applies to Miller Playfield on Capitol Hill.

I am involved with a group which gives assistance to the formerly homeless people now living in Housing Association units at Magnuson while preparing to enter the working world to support themselves and their families. Are they such second class citizens that no consideration need to be given to their plight? They will be living on the edge of the proposed lighted area where they will be continuously subjected to this area of endless light as well as the noise and traffic associated with this installation. The parking facilities are admittedly limited but this will not limit the number of cars seeking parking which will then park on the edge of the roads throughout the park including in the housing area.

2  
L&G2  
NOI1  
TRAN1

The lights presently used for night lighting of the parking area used by Children's Hospital by themselves cause considerable glare where I live at the south edge of the park and I know this is negligible compared to that the sports field lighting will bring.

With the height of the poles to be used the residents of the surrounding areas will not be able to ignore or escape the bright lights. Even those described as pointing down, because of their size and number will cast a bright light over the entire surrounding area.

3  
SEPA3

No doubt there is a shortage of such lighted facilities in the Seattle area but that of itself does not seem adequate reason to overload one of the outstanding park areas in the city. Spread them around to different neighborhoods throughout the city but don't concentrate all of them here to the detriment of the surrounding neighborhoods that would be so badly affected. Give many neighborhoods the opportunity to have facilities that can be used by their own people without the need for additional transportation problems.

With the downturn in the economy which we are presently experiencing, necessitating the closure of 20 King County Parks, it seems an extremely poor time to spend all this money on what appears to be over-kill on sports facilities in this one area. How can we expect them to be maintained and remain open for future use?

4  
SEPA11

Myma Roberts  
 6532 NE 61st Street  
 Seattle, WA 98115

## Eric Friedli - Proposed Lights at Magnuson Park Play Fields

**From:** "Rob Rose-Leigh" <rose-leighfamily@attbi.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/20/2002 9:32 PM  
**Subject:** Proposed Lights at Magnuson Park Play Fields

To whom it may concern,

We do not support the proposed lights at the playing fields of Magnuson Park.

While my wife and I live in View Ridge, and enjoy sports, we do not play in any organized leagues. You see, we are parents of two small children, and even if we wanted to, probably could not find the time to play in such leagues, especially as so many of the scheduled games go late into the night. Many people in the neighborhood are raising children here, and are in a similar point in their lives. I believe if you surveyed the people who play in these leagues you would find that the majority are single and under 30 years old. This is not the make-up of our community. Therefore, the lights would service primarily people who do not live in our community. It would add night time noise and traffic; Sand Point Way already resembles a freeway during the day, and we appreciate when it quiets down at night.

We live here largely because of the wonderful views, and we are particularly fond of watching the moon rise over the Cascades and Lake Washington on clear full-moon nights. If you have seen this you know what I mean--spectacular. This will be a thing of the past with the glare of the proposed lighting of the playing fields.

We urge you not to implement the proposed plan and look for other solutions.

Sincerely,

Rob & Barbara Rose-Leigh

1  
S/O4

2  
L&G2  
NOI1  
TRAN1

## Eric Friedli - Magnuson Bikeway

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**From:** "Robert H. Rosenberg" <rhrosenberg@attbi.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 1/27/2002 4:00 PM  
**Subject:** Magnuson Bikeway

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My wife and I are concerned about the nature of the proposed bikeway at Magnuson. If it is developed, it should be entirely separate from pedestrian pathways and there should be a low speed limit. We resent that bikers have now appropriated the Burke-Gilman Trail, where they literally terrorize walkers by high speeds, and we've heard none-too-subtle comments from some of them in passing that old folks like us don't even belong there.

We feel that bikers should be discouraged from Magnuson, except in instances we have seen where there are adults with small children, who are going at a very safe pace.

R. H. Rosenberg  
Jane Fein

8632 Inverness Drive NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

1  
PD8

## Eric Friedli - lights at Magnuson

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**From:** "Liza Rost" <lizarost@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/25/2002 9:56 AM  
**Subject:** lights at Magnuson

---

Dear Mr.. Friedli,  
Thank you for listening to the neighborhood's concerns regarding lighting at Magnuson Park.

We have lived in the neighborhood for 20 plus years, and have seen Magnuson Park go through many changes, most of which we fully support. We also have two children who are very active in sports, one of whom plays soccer year-round. We volunteer our time for this team as well as for the University of Washington Woman's Soccer Team. We know the plight of soccer in regard to field accessibility in the city of Seattle only too well.

We were, however, simply not prepared for the impact that the lighting had on our home. On the nights of the tests the lights from the field lit up our entire house. When we think of this multiplied by how many fields are supposed to be lit, it is totally unacceptable; especially given the proposed hours of operation for the fields. (Would you tolerate your living room lit up like a gym until 11:00pm Mr. Friedli?)

We are not by any means anti-soccer, or anti-Magnuson Park. We are, however, pro-preservation the integrity of our neighborhood.

Thank you for your time.  
Liza F. Rost



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Chat with friends online, try MSN Messenger: <http://messenger.msn.com>

1  
L&G2

## Eric Friedli - Strongly opposed to lighting Magnuson Park

---

**From:** "Diana Russell" <Dianarussell@Windermere.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Mayors.Office@ci.seattle.wa.us, >, <dewey.potter@ci.seattle.wa.us,>, <jim.compton@ci.seattle.wa.us, >, <richard.conlin@ci.seattle.wa.us,>, <jan.drago@ci.seattle.wa.us, >, <nick.licata@ci.seattle.wa.us,>, <richard.mciver@ci.seattle.wa.us, >, <judy.nicastro@ci.seattle.wa.us,>, <margaret.pageler@ci.seattle.wa.us, >, <peter.steinbrueck@ci.seattle.wa.us,>, <heidi.wills@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <dianna237@attbi.com>  
**Date:** 2/24/2002 1:40 AM  
**Subject:** Strongly opposed to lighting Magnuson Park

---

Diana Russell  
 7221 56th Ave. NE Seattle, WA 98115  
 206-954-6397 DianaRussell@windermere.com

20 February 2002  
 Dear Mayor Nickels, Councilmen, and Sand Point Operations,

My name is Diana Russell. I am a former Wildlife Biologist for the federal government and a Magnuson Park neighbor. I have lived and owned my home in View Ridge for 16 years.

I have carefully studied the DEIS and the exceedingly ambitious plans for the artificially lit sports fields, and have concluded that this project is contrary to and inconsistent with the needs and well-being of both the community at large, and the environment.

I am concerned: The Draft Environmental Impact Statement merely states some of the impact from the proposed athletic field lighting to both migratory birds and the disruption of the day/night cycle on the feeding and breeding behaviors of some species.

The glare from the 2 largest baseball fields will reach deep into the wetlands, radically changing forever that environment.

There is no adequate solution proposed in the DEIS for mitigating the adverse effects of the reflected light and glare on our valuable wildlife resource at Magnuson Park. And it will have enormously negative impact on not just the immediate neighbors, but on the entire North end of Lake Washington.

As has been pointed out before, the DEIS states that, "Virtually all of the single-family residential area west of Sand Point Way is located west of the Burke-Gilman Trail and above 125 feet, and would have limited or no exposure to direct glare from the sports field lights."

THIS IS NOT TRUE.

It's disingenuous and mendacious at worst, extremely sloppy and unprofessional at best.

On the most recent lighting demonstration, I was appalled by the intensity of the light I saw from my home on 56th Ave. NE, a few doors from where the photograph you see was taken.

My home is near the top of the hill and well above 125 feet. During the demonstration I also drove up to 50th Ave. NE, and the glare from the lights were almost equally intense from there. What would it be like if we escalate from a

dinky 3-pole, 12-light demonstration for a few hours, to a 2 1/2-to-7 hour a day, 7-day-a-week, 80-pole, 640-light inundation?

file://C:\TEMP\GW\00001.HTM

2/25/2002

1  
WDLF1

2  
L&G2

The answer is painfully clear: We and our children will not be able to sleep in a bedroom exposed to the intense glow and the accompanying noise from the natural amphitheater down below.

This nighttime noise and ultra-bright light, year 'round, will bring a continuous carnival quality-- and not a fun one-- to our homes and neighborhood.

The large number of proposed athletic fields and lighting is disproportional and unfair for this community, negatively impacting our homes, our gardens, our streets, our bedrooms, and our unique and valuable wildlife resource at the park.

The DEIS seems to have failed to consider off-site alternatives, giving me the strong impression that these decisions have already been made. I'd hate to consider that these hearings are merely a clever medium for allowing us to let off steam, so we'll more willingly acquiesce when a situation we vigorously oppose, is jammed down our throats, one more example of government following its own increasingly "public-be-damned" agenda.

We need to look at more alternatives and a more equitable, more even distribution of athletic fields throughout the city, spreading the benefits as well as the harm. Even the so-called "lesser alternative" stated in the DEIS proposes more lighted athletic fields for Magnuson Park than anywhere else in the city.

For this to have any credibility and range, a true "lesser alternative" of "NO additional athletic field and NO additional lighting" alternative must be seriously considered.

I understand that there are some who think there are possibilities for "mitigating" the effects of the lights; I don't believe that's physically possible. If it is true, let's demonstrate it by placing a full complement of lighting for one pole at the proposed height for two weeks. Frankly, it sounds like empty political rhetoric.

The cumulative impacts of these and other activities at the park have never been addressed in a comprehensive, cohesive fashion, and I believe we need to take a good look at the big picture before we make commitments that will impact us all for years to come.

Adamantly yours,

Diana Russell

2  
L&G2  
(cont'd)

3  
NOI1

4  
SEPA1

5  
SEPA2  
SEPA3

6  
L&G2

7  
SEPA5  
L&G3

**Eric Friedli - opposed to lighting Magnuson Park**

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**From:** "dianarussellre" <dianna237@attbi.com>  
**To:** "Eric Friedli" <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/26/2002 3:27 AM  
**Subject:** opposed to lighting Magnuson Park

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Dear Mr. Friedli,

Please be specific how the lighting will not severely disrupt the neighbors and wildlife. Phrases like 'better technology' might sound good but is empty rhetoric. I saw the 3 pole lighting demonstration and fail to see the mitigation. Any lighting of this sort, after dark, will be detrimental to the health and well being of the surrounding neighborhood and wildlife resources. Frequently the old commissary building is lit at night and is very disruptive. That lighting level is MUCH LESS than any of the athletic field lighting proposed and does not bring the noise the **PROPOSED LARGEST SYNTHETIC-LIT ATHLETIC industrial COMPLEX** anywhere in the Pacific Northwest will bring.

8  
L&G2  
NOI1  
WDLF1

Quite frankly, I am disappointed that you appear to have made up your mind to "compromise" our community. You say that the athletic fields will be an asset to the community. Actually, it seems you are more than willing to go along with a lighting proposal that will destroy our community, INCLUDING THE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING. How could that night time light and noise be a benefit to people in transition? Did the federal government not turn over the site to the Seattle Parks with the housing provision?

There must be quite a bit of value to the property owners in the area that you are also ignoring! Our taxes are much higher here because we don't have circus like lighting at this time. Has the economic loss to the residents from marred views and increased noise and associated impacts been examined? Has the loss to the tax base from diminished view, light glare, noise and traffic been assessed? How can you reassure us that the noise levels will meet any kind of night time standard?

9  
SEPA6

Thank you for providing more detailed responses and an outline of the specific benefits you believe the surrounding community will enjoy. I would truly like to understand your position and why you seem to have made up your mind. If compromise is the idea then compromising with the rest of the city and disbursing these fields so the local communities can enjoy the benefits, and have the downside as well. Could you also let me know what kind of information would influence your decision. If there is none then please be so kind as to let me know.

10  
SEPA1  
SEPA3

I appreciate your looking into the true impacts to this community and the wildlife resources at Magnuson. I enjoy athletics but this plan is about cramming way too much into our neighborhood.

Very sincerely yours,  
Diana Russell

## Eric Friedli - Opposed to lit athletic fields ,false mitigation jargon and false pro lighting"neighbor" claims

---

**From:** "Diana Russell" <Dianarussell@Windermere.com>  
**To:** <Rose.Rapoza@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Jim Compton" <jim.compton@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
 <George.Allen@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Irene.Namkung@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
 <Linda.Robson@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Richard.Conlin@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
 <Elaine.Ko@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <SaraE.Nelson@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
 <Phyllis.Shulman@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <jan.drago@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
 <barbara.clemons@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <krista.bunch@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
 <Nick.Licata@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Newell.Aldrich@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <lisa.herbold@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
 <Richard.Mciver@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Paul.Elliott@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
 <Yvonne.Newson@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Eric.Parsons@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
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 <Margaret.Pageler@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Linda.Stores@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
 <Malik.Davis@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Jenny.Mccloskey@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
 <Heidi.Wills@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Michael.Fong@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Katy.Carter@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
 <Jo.Chavira-bash@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Eric Friedli" <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>,  
 <cdavid.hughbanks@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Mayors.Office@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/28/2002 4:27 AM  
**Subject:** Opposed to lit athletic fields ,false mitigation jargon and false pro lighting"neighbor" claims

---

Diana Russell  
 7221 56th Ave. NE Seattle, WA 98115  
 206-954-6397 Dianna@attbi.com

28 February 2002  
 Dear Mayor Nickels and Councilmen,

I am opposed to lighting athletic fields at Magnuson Park. I support even distribution of playing fields throughout Seattle neighborhoods.

I am concerned that people outside the neighborhoods surrounding Magnuson Park, from 2 to 3 neighborhoods away AND MORE, are claiming they live in the neighborhood when they tout their support for the lit athletic fields. In other words they are not telling the truth, they live far enough away so their day/night cycle, as well as peace and quiet, will not be disturbed and don't care about the people who really do live in the neighborhood. Or the wildlife at the park. Or the other visitors to the park that would no longer be able to enjoy a reprieve of quiet and serenity.

I will be sorely disappointed if you say you have support from the surrounding community, when in fact these claims come largely from those who do not live in the neighborhood. Perhaps they need to be willing to have some of the severe detriments in their neighborhoods to get what they want...like trying to get individual playing fields disbursed through the neighborhoods of Seattle. It is totally unfair to put such a severe burden on the true neighbors as well as destroy the nature of the park. The efforts need to be stepped up to find better disbursement of athletic fields...so the REAL neighbors can have all of what comes with the athletic fields.

If you think a group of adults playing baseball or soccer until 11pm has some health and social benefit, think of how many more people in our city can benefit from this as a place to go without constant loud noise, as a place to observe wildlife and nature. Think of the fantastic Wind Park Sculpture that is such a great nature-interactive piece of art...that would never be heard again by the citizens of Seattle if anything close to even the lesser alternative is adopted. No, they won't let us in late at night when the adult athletic field participants are done with their late night games. If you have not been to the Wind Park Sculpture at N.O.A.A. immediately adjacent to Magnuson Park, could you please go there and sit for five minutes and take it in? It may be the most profound natural experience available in the city today...then sit for five more

11  
S/O4

minutes and imagine the sound and activities of the proposed athletic fields... look back on the neighborhoods(including the Transitional Housing!) in this natural amphitheatre and imagine the extreme wattage of the lights;then make your decision on what you think is the healthy decision for our city and its people. I hope you feel this huge decision is worth that 10 sincere minutes.

Don't get fooled by the "new technology" mitigation jargon... like using those words makes the lighting I saw at the displays anything less than outrageous!

Please try to understand, if the lighting, noise and traffic was not so detrimental to our families, our health, our sleep, the homeless shelters at the park and the wildlife, I would never dream of spending my time writing you.

And what respect is there for open space?? For peaceful public spaces...please imagine Magnuson park with all the fields going...Does not a larger population than the 'friends of athletic fields' deserve to have this lovely park with some peace and quiet day or night? And does the Joint Athletic Field Plans not say the impacts on the neighbors is to be an important consideration?

Thank you for spending your time in considering the tremendous adverse impacts of lit playing fields on these neighbors and the park environment with out the false 'mitigation jargon' and false neighbor claims.

Sincerely yours,  
Diana Russell

11  
S/O4  
(cont'd)

Diana Russell

1266

P7

① DIANA RUSSELL  
7221 56th Ave NE  
98115 Seattle, WA

My name is Diana Russell, I am a former Wildlife Biologist for the federal Government and a Magnuson Park NEIGHBOR.

I am concerned, The Draft Environmental Impact Statement merely states some of the impacts from the proposed athletic field lighting to both migratory birds and the disruption of The day/night cycle on the feeding and breeding behaviors of some species.

\* The glare from the 2 largest baseball fields will reach into the wetlands

There is NO adequate solution proposed in the D.E.I.S for mitigating the adverse effects of the reflected light and glare on our Valuable Wildlife resource at Magnuson Park.

For pages 7-10 of this Comment Record please see responses contained in the first two (2) pages of this Comment Record

② of 4

In addition, The D.E.I.S. states that:

"Virtually all of the single-family residential area west of Sand Pt Way is located west of the Burke-Gillman trail and above 125 feet, and would have limited or no exposure to direct glare from the sports field lights".

THIS IS NOT TRUE!

On the most recent lighting demonstration I was appalled by the intensity of the light I saw from my home on 56<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, A few doors from where the picture was taken.

My home is at the top of the hill and well above 125'. What would it be like

if we go from a 3 pole demonstration, for a few hours to 80 poles, on until 11pm year-round

Diana Russell

③ Diana Russell  
064

The answer is Clear: We and our children will not be able to sleep in a bedroom exposed to the intense glow and accompanying noise.

This nighttime noise and ultra bright light, year round, will bring a continuous carnival quality to our homes and neighborhood.

The Large number of proposed athletic fields and lighting is just plain unfair for this community to absorb in our homes, our gardens our streets, our bedrooms and our valuable wildlife resource at the Park.

Diana Russell

(4) of 4

The D.E.I.S. has failed to consider off site alternatives, giving the impression that these decisions have already been made.

We need to look at a more even distribution of athletic fields in the city, Spreading the benefits as well as the harm.

Even the "lesser alternative" stated in The DEIS proposes more lighted athletic fields than anywhere in The City.

A "No additional Athletic field and No additional Lighting alternative" must be seriously considered

**Eric Friedli - SPMP DEIS comments**

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**From:** "Marilyn Sandall" <msandall1@mindspring.com>  
**To:** "Eric Friedli" <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/28/2002 9:01 AM  
**Subject:** SPMP DEIS comments  
**CC:** <michele.daly@ci.seattle.wa.us>

---

Dear Mr. Friedli:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Sand Point Magnuson Park Draft Environmental Impact Statement. While I was pleased that there were so many opportunities for public input, I was disappointed to see that the DEIS did not represent more of the public responses given during the Charrette and the long series of public hearings. I found it unreasonable to focus only on the wetlands or vegetation management or athletic field lighting during the process. Sand Point Magnuson Park is a dynamic whole. During the Wetlands Charrette, we were not permitted to question athletic field lighting. During the Vegetation Management hearings, we could not ask about proposed wetland vegetation. Although I have attended almost all of the hearings and the Charrette, I still do not know how many tall trees will be standing if the proposed plan is implemented. A careful reading of the DEIS did not help answer this question.

1  
PD4

I have given a great deal of thought to the park and its future and am focusing my comments to those areas of concern that I feel the DEIS has not adequately addressed. I hope they will be read and addressed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

**Lighting.**

- The Draft Environmental Impact Statement does not adequately measure the increased levels of lighting within the proposed wetlands or along the lake shore. An illustration of 0.5 foot candles, which is 50 times brighter than the light of a full moon, at 150 feet beyond the athletic field fencelines is not an adequate measure of light in the wetlands or along the shore. This estimate of lighting spill also does not account for scatter (reflected light) from fields and water vapor.
- A modeling study should be done to measure both incident radiation and reflected light from fields and from water vapor under wet conditions.
- This modeling study would likely find that the level of lighting has been underestimated. It is well known that extended daylength triggers physiology and changes behavior around feeding & breeding and thus, changes the population density of wildlife. Artificial lighting is known to disorient migratory birds and increase mortality during overcast, wet or foggy conditions.
- The DEIS does not propose mitigation measures (a no lighting alternative, limiting lighting hours, planting vegetation screens) to alleviate these effects on wildlife.
- Seattle Parks and the City of Seattle need to be very careful in designing lighting systems. Both brightness and the kind of wave length need to be measured to understand their effects on wildlife. There are experts on lighting who are knowledgeable about these effects on wildlife and humans. Both Chris Israel ([www.LightingDesignAlliance.com](http://www.LightingDesignAlliance.com)) and Jack Sales ([www.DarkSky.org/ida/fixtures](http://www.DarkSky.org/ida/fixtures)) presented recently at the *Ecological Consequences of the effects of night Lighting Conference* in Los Angeles.
- The DEIS does not acknowledge that glare is visible from the hillside above the Burke-Gilman Trail. I could see the sports field lighting demonstration while lying in bed. They were as bright as halogen headlights. I found the glare from the shielded conventional lights egregious. The

2  
WDLF13  
L&G2

impact of glare on people living “in the park” must be even more significant.

### Vegetation

- The DEIS does not incorporate the vegetation management plan for tall trees, the wetlands, bioswales, and settling ponds. Environmentally critical areas must list those plants, particularly trees, which are to be removed or planted according to DCLU ordinances. It is difficult to make sense of the separate vegetation management plan that describes current vegetation and the DEIS with no description of proposed wetland vegetation. Habitat is critical to wildlife. Tall trees provide perching, shrubs and grasslands provide foraging and nesting for birds. The kind of vegetation used in the bioswales and settling ponds is critical to water quality. 4 PD4
- The DEIS does not include long-term monitoring of vegetation habitat and wildlife. 90% of constructed wetlands in King County have failed. With that track record, long-term monitoring and maintenance are essential. 5 WET1

### Noise

- The DEIS underestimates the effects of noise on wetland wildlife and on adjacent neighborhoods. A modeling study of sports field noise is needed. Residents who live within the park and the surrounding neighborhoods will be subjected to a significant increase in noise, particularly at night, if the athletic fields are lit until 11pm. This impact needs to be better described. 6 NOI1
- No mitigation measures for increased noise were addressed. 7 NOI4

### General

- The DEIS does not include the cumulative impacts of increased lighting, noise and numbers of people from areas outside the scope of this DEIS; off-leash dog area, community garden, buildings, parking lots, tennis courts; on the wetlands and shoreline habitat and wildlife. 8 SEPA5 L&G3
- It does not propose adequate mitigation measures for the increase in traffic, noise and people. 9 SEPA8
- It does not include long-term monitoring of drainage fields, wetlands and off-leash area for quality of both habitat and water. 10 SEPA5
- The DEIS does not justify the need for this number of sports fields nor does it consider any off-site alternatives to these fields. The proposed sports fields, if built and lit, will comprise 19% of all lit athletic fields in Seattle. This is a significant undue burden on the neighborhood. This park is the last large open space in northeast Seattle. Magnuson Park, as is, is a precious resource. 11 WTR4 SEPA1 SEPA3

Marilyn Sandall  
6907 57<sup>th</sup> Ave NE  
Seattle WA 98115-7834

24 February 2002

Eric Friedli  
Peter Steinbrueck

We, as residents of View Ridge, Sand Point and the surrounding area are voicing our very deep concern to the proposed sports field and flood lighting development of these fields at Magnuson Park.

As a community, we feel these plans, as they stand, will have a very direct adverse impact on the existing Sand Point Community Housing Association residents and also residents of the surrounding areas.

We are already experiencing an increase of speed and traffic on NE 70<sup>th</sup> Street and are deeply concerned about children's safety at View Ridge Playfield and school.

We would like to register our objection to these plans as they now stand.

1  
S/O4L&G2  
NOI1

TRAN1

Name	Address	Telephone
✓ Elaine Sandell	6856-47 <sup>th</sup> Ave. N.E. Seattle, WA 98115	206-525-8158
✓ Janet Krieger	6525-42 <sup>nd</sup> Ave. N.E. Seattle, WA 98115	206-523-3394
✓ Kathryn Dennis	6857 47 <sup>th</sup> Ave. N.E. Seattle 98115	206-523-3888
✓ Michael Dennis	" "	206-523-3888
✓ Barbara Lalonde	7011-47 <sup>th</sup> Ave. N.E.	206-522-6949
✓ Diane F. LaViolette	7011-47 NE	206-522-6949
✓ Peter Steinbrueck	98115	206 525-0825
✓ Opal Hill	98115	206-523-4985
✓ Pat Hill	98115	" 523-2226
✓ Doris Appleman	98115	
✓ Charles Devine	98103	206 547-5185
✓ Ruth Devine	98103	" 547-8189
✓ Joe Miller	98115	206 521-5304
✓ David L. Vandenberg	98105	206 522-8394
✓ Glenn Vandenberg	98105	206 522-8394

see next page  
↓

[illegible]

Dear Sir,

When I saw the sample lights at the park. I didn't know what they were but hoped they were temporary. I can't imagine what eighty ples light will do.

1  
L&G2

We have lived on 57 N.E. looking down on the playgrounds since 1964. My husband died in March 2001. We always enjoyed seeing evening view, the moon or light reflecting on the lake. Eighty ples light will certainly spoil that.

2  
ENR1

There is one other thing that concerns me. We are told to cut back on seeing electricity and here are these huge flood lights glaring at us. They are not giving the right message.

2  
ENR1  
(cont'd)

Also who ~~she~~ pays for  
them?

I hope our concerns  
will be considered.

Yours Truly  
Guelyn Schellberg  
—

6655 - 57<sup>TH</sup> AV NE  
SEATTLE, 98115

## Eric Friedli - A vote against Magnuson Park lighting proposal

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**From:** <Sevitz@aol.com>  
**To:** <mayors.office@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <ken.bounds@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <cdavid.hughbanks@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <margaret.pageler@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <jim.compton@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <richard.conlin@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <jan.drago@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <nick.licata@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <peter.steinbrueck@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <richard.mciver@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <judy.nicastro@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <heidi.wills@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/25/2002 11:01 AM  
**Subject:** A vote against Magnuson Park lighting proposal

---

Dear Mayor Nickels, Mr. Friedli, Mr Bounds, Mr. Hughbanks and Seattle City Council members,

This letter is written in protest of the lighted sports field proposal for Magnuson Park. Our family has lived in the same home in View Ridge since it was built in 1950. Not only will the proposed lighting for sports fields negatively impact the quality of life we have enjoyed there, but more importantly, the plan is socially irresponsible as well. I am requesting that the city at least downsize the number of proposed fields and forgo all of the proposed lighting.

The negative effects of the proposed plan will be to completely change the character of the View Ridge and surrounding neighborhoods. The nighttime views of most of the people residing on the eastward-facing hill will be ruined. We are very familiar with Laurelhurst Park and we witnessed the strength of the light from the tennis courts, which were much fewer in number. Those lights could be seen for many miles around in many directions. Multiplying the number to that such as proposed produces a distressing picture in my mind.

I have studied the DEIS and find it very lacking in information. The facts appear to have been painted with a subjective brush that puts a more positive slant on the proposal than common sense would impart. The most disturbing factor to me is that nothing is said about the expenditure of funds and electricity. A call had to be placed to the parks department to ascertain how the lights would operate. Not only will more expense be incurred in lighting the fields, but also a staff person will have to be paid to program the timing of lighting. More staff time will be used in billing some of the users of the fields. In addition, people create litter, so a maintenance staff will not only spend hours keeping up the fields etc. but hours will be spent in keeping the areas clean.

Notwithstanding all of these negatives, the overriding problem I see is that this use of electricity is very irresponsible. How can the city ask people to use less electricity in their homes while they look out their windows and see the glaring waste of power at the park? Are the planners aware that in such an established neighborhood, many of the residents are elderly and will not receive ANY benefit whatsoever from the fields, lights and other "improvements"? Yet they will be asked to pay through taxes to receive nothing but a loss in their quality of life. While five states have implemented some lighting restrictions, why is Seattle planning more uses and wasting of our valuable electricity resources just so a relative few can play ball later into the night? Furthermore, the project will not be completed for ten years, so the impact cannot be completely understood in the context of energy needs at that time. This just does not make sense to me and my conscience will not allow me to sit by and not object!

Thank you for considering these concerns and changing your proposals to some which are much more community friendly and fiscally and environmentally responsible.

Sincerely,

Cathy Manos Sherman  
 c/o Janet Manos  
 7337 58th Ave NE  
 Seattle Wa 98115  
 206-399-3298

Please  
 see the  
 responses  
 to  
 comments  
 contained  
 in Letter  
 1188

7424 55<sup>th</sup> Ave NE  
Seattle, WA 98115  
206-523-5096

February 27, 2002

Eric Friedli, Director of Operations  
Sand Point/Magnuson Park  
7400 Sand Point Way  
Seattle, WA 98115

Dear Mr. Friedli:

I have lived in View Ridge for 37 years. I have never before objected to anything done at Sand Point, although I lived here when it was a navy facility. Our house overlooks the two main entrances and most of the park. I am appalled at the thought of the glare from the lights shining on the sports fields every night. One of the things we have loved about this neighborhood was the "country feeling"—quiet, with many different species of birds in the area.

1  
L&G2

Over the years, however, with more activity after the park finally became reality, there was an increase in traffic. We live at the corner of NE 75<sup>th</sup> and 55<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, where there is a very sharp corner. The fire hydrant in front of our house has been damaged so many times that a special valve had to be put on it. Last summer it was completely bent over and also the light standard south of it was taken out in a different accident. We have asked that a stop sign be placed at the foot of NE 75<sup>th</sup> Street, but the city says no one has been killed there. No doubt it will happen someday. The traffic will increase dramatically when the park is more heavily used. If it is dangerous now, it will be far worse with more people using the park and using this arterial.

2  
TRAN1

I love to see the moonlight on the lake, as it is right now, and that view will never be the same with the bright lighting. Even in the daytime, we will have our view spoiled by 85' poles.

3  
AES1

Please light just a few fields as the people who live in this neighborhood and who pay high taxes for their view property are the ones who will suffer the most.

4  
PD9

Sincerely,

*Helen L. Sherman*

Helen L. Sherman

Cc: Greg Nickels

## Eric Friedli - playfields

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**From:** "Ron and Deejah Sherman-Peterson" <sherpeterd@attbi.com>  
**To:** <ken.bounds@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <michele.daly@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/26/2002 11:48 AM  
**Subject:** playfields  
**CC:** <Mayors.Office@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Jim.Compton@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Richard.Conlin@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Jan.Drago@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Licata, Nick" <Nick.Licata@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Richard.Mclver@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Judy.Nicastro@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Margaret.Pageler@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Peter.Steinbrueck@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <Heidi.Wills@ci.seattle.wa.us>

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Dear People,

We are deeply disturbed about the scheduling and lighting issues at our neighborhood playfields. When we voted for the school and park levies that included the Jane Addams and Nathan Hale playfields, we believed we were voting for school and neighborhood use of these fields—as they had been used in the past but with better facilities. Were we ever mistaken! "Misled" is the better term.

We have no objection to organized non-school groups using these playfields also, but we do object to their being used past 9 P.M. Sunday through Thursday nights and past 10 P.M. Friday and Saturday nights. Some of us actually must get up at 5:45 A.M. to go to work and need to be able to sleep by 10 P.M. Surely, you realize that a 9 P.M. ending time means about 10 P.M. before everyone has finished yelling, slammed all their vehicle doors, and left!

And we do not want lighting that is more than minimally necessary to conduct the games. It interferes with the lives of both humans and non-humans (birds, bats, fish, and other animals). We suspect that the proposed lighting system was a foregone conclusion and not a fair assessment of what is really available and practical.

Our experience at "neighborhood" meetings conducted by city and school officials has convinced us that input from neighborhood residents is dismissed; the decisions have already been made.

We are already experiencing vehicles parked on both sides of NE 110th Street, often blocking the sidewalk on the south side of NE 110th Street and sometimes ending up in the ditch on the north side. Very few drivers avail themselves of the lots at both schools; it seems that walking a few hundred feet in order to get to the exercise field is too much exercise to ask.

With these large and noisy "playfields" that are now used by organized teams from afar and with the tall apartment buildings and concrete covering a growing portion of Lake City, our section of Seattle is growing noisier and uglier and more polluted every day.

We have always voted for school and park levies because we have been teachers, our children attended public schools, and we use public parks and support environmentally-friendly policies. We will not be so forthcoming with our support in the future—and we have never missed an election.

Sincerely,

Ron and Deejah Sherman-Peterson  
 10818 27th Avenue NE  
 Seattle, WA 98125

1  
L&G2  
WDLF1

2  
SEPA15

3  
TRAN3

Feb. 25, 2002

Dear Sandpoint Magnuson Park,

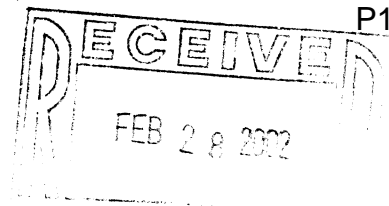
We are neighbors on 58th Ave. NE.  
overlooking the park. We voted for  
more parks but didn't realize  
the negative impact it will have  
on our views and property values.  
Your park proposals don't seem  
to include neighbor concerns.

The lighting demonstration was  
quite an eye-opener! With only a  
few "pales" on display, it was like  
looking into the bright halogen car  
headlights head-on. It was too  
bright and painful on the eyes,  
especially against the dark back-  
drop of lake and sky. This will  
also disturb the animal wildlife  
in the area, disrupting their sleep  
cycles.

Planting towering trees and not  
pruning what is there also creates  
other problems related to keeping  
our views open. There has to  
be careful thought to include  
all concerned.

Sincerely,  
Fay & Justin Shimada

7727 58th Avenue NE  
Seattle, Washington 98115  
28 February 2002



BY HAND

Eric Friedli  
Director of Operations and Planning  
Sand Point Magnuson Park  
7400 Sand Point Way NE  
Seattle, Washington 98115

Re: Comments on Drainage, Wetland/Habitat Complex and Sports Fields/Courts Project  
Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)

Dear Mr. Friedli:

I have reviewed the referenced DEIS. The DEIS is deficient in several ways: legally, technically, and ethically. My detailed comments (enclosed) are submitted for the official record and use in preparing the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

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SEPA4

As you know, I submitted (30 January 2002) a Public Disclosure Act Request to inspect certain records of the Sand Point Magnuson Park relevant to the DEIS. On 4 February, I was informed that my access to those records would not be allowed until after closure of the DEIS comment period. I promptly submitted a request for extension of the comment period to allow me to use knowledge of those records in formulating my comments. Although state law specifically allows you to grant an extension, you declined to provide even the minimal time provided in law.

2  
SEPA15

However, in your refusal to comply with my request, you stated that "there will be additional opportunities for you to provide comments on the proposal after you have received and have had a chance to analyze the additional data you have requested from the City." Please now provide an explanation of what those additional opportunities will be and explain how they will comply with SEPA. Also, please explain how those opportunities will apply to other neighbors of the park, in so much as my request included a statement that I sought those records with the intent of making that information available to other View Ridge residents.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments and the above request.

Sincerely,

Fletcher G. Shives

Enclosure

cc: Mayor Nickels  
Seattle City Council

**Detailed comments on the Drainage, Wetland/Habitat Complex and Sports Fields/Courts Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)**

Submitted by:  
Fletcher G. Shives  
7727 58th Ave. NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

**Alternatives** (p.2-50)

The DEIS fails to consider off-site alternatives on the patently absurd basis that the project proponent, through the Joint Athletic Fields Development Plan (JAFDP) did not propose any other sites. But of course that is ridiculous and carried to an extreme would mean that there is no reason to prepare an EIS -- because the proponent is going to do only what is proposed regardless of environmental impacts or the availability of lesser impact alternatives or other mitigation. The clear purpose and intent of an EIS is to give the decision makers the information needed to make informed decisions -- which they can do only if the EIS is thorough and complete in its consideration. And this DEIS is not thorough and complete without off-site alternatives evaluation.

The State Environmental Policy Act exempts only private projects from off-site alternative evaluation. The state SEPA Handbook specifically states that public projects are required to consider off-site alternatives.

Alternatives must be only reasonable and capable of being done to merit consideration. Plainly, it is reasonable and practicable to provide lights and synthetic surfaces at other athletic fields in the city. Indeed, spreading the illuminated fields throughout the city, with no one site having a large number, could have positive environmental benefits: reduced traffic and noise at any one site; reduced energy use to travel cross city to reach one large capacity site; reduced pollution as a result of reduced travel; greater opportunity for other neighborhoods to enjoy the stated benefits of illuminated fields; reduced light, glare, and sky glow at any one site; etc.

The Washington Supreme Court has ruled in Weyerhaeuser v. Pierce County, 124 Wn.2d 26, 873 P.2d 498 (1994) that public projects require off site alternatives consideration.

3  
SEPA1

**Lesser Capacity Alternative** (p.2-42)

The so-called lesser capacity alternative is a sham proposal and in fact is the original primary proposal as made by the JAFDP. The DEIS states that it is a lesser capacity when in fact it eliminates none of the highest output lights and the lights with the relative greatest impact on the adjacent environment. It retains all of the baseball fields including the two without full cut-off lights which will face the residential areas within and outside of the park.

The so-called lesser capacity alternative would still have more than twice the average number of illuminated fields as currently present at any individual site in the city (seven lit fields compared to an average of 2.6 lit fields at 19 other sites in the city.) (If completed as proposed, the Magnuson Park site would become a veritable industrial area of athletic fields with 23% of the present number of illuminated fields in the city - 11 at Magnuson versus 47 now throughout the city.)

An honest and fair reduced capacity alternative would have no more than three illuminated fields (the rounded average of all present sites) with none of those being baseball fields.

4  
SEPA2**Light and Glare**

The DEIS writers are reluctant to state that any impact is significant and instead expect those who would be compelled to endure the impacts to believe the writers opinions which belie the neighbors personal observations of even the minimal demonstration lights: the environmental impacts of the full and lesser capacity alternatives will be MAJOR and SIGNIFICANT. This we know from personal observation: it is an observed fact, not opinion. Moreover, the opinions of hundreds of directly affected individuals account for a factual determination of significance.

5  
L&G2

The DEIS fails to substantiate statements about light and glare and sky glow and the effects on the adjacent neighborhood and natural environment. The DEIS fails to provide data under the ruse that they are not obtainable. In fact critical data are obtainable: albedo (the brightness of an object) is measurable and quantifiable; reflectance (how much an object reflects light) is measurable and quantifiable; atmospheric scattering (which causes the air around luminaries to appear lit) is measurable and quantifiable. These parameters, individually and collectively, will determine how the proposed lights impact the environment.

6  
L&G1

The "latest technology" for lighting will do little or nothing to alter these fundamental parameters of the environment into which the lights are placed. These parameters must be measured and quantified under wet and dry conditions and expressed in terms understandable to the lay reader to render an informed decision.

The DEIS fails to consider the visual perception of light and especially as affected by the above parameters of albedo, reflectance, and scattering. Of great significance, but not considered, is the the human perception of contrast between light and dark objects. This factor will be especially significant for the neighborhood to the west and south of the park. Although direct glare may not exceed a certain arbitrary level at adjacent properties, observers at those properties will see brightly illuminated surfaces and atmospheric scattered light and reflected light from clouds. Those illuminated surfaces will be juxtaposed with a very dark background of unlit areas and pinpoint lights across Lake Washington. The contrast will be extreme and will prevent observation of those darker areas. This visual perception phenomenon must be considered in the EIS.

6  
L&G1  
(cont'd)

The proposed lighting will have a significant impact on the natural environment and the built environment.

7  
L&G2

### **Cumulative Impacts**

The DEIS fails to adequately consider cumulative impacts under the guise that the other impacts (lights) are in and of themselves insignificant. The DEIS in considering cumulative impacts cannot dismiss a factor that is singly insignificant (and especially so when there is no documentation to show that the single impact is insignificant.) Rather, once the total contribution of the impacts becomes significant, no individual part may be dismissed as insignificant. Taken as a whole, the sum of the parts is significant and it is that sum which must be addressed.

8  
L&G3  
SEPA5

At Sand Point Magnuson Park the sum of the light impacts, which is cumulatively significant, includes: high intensity security and area illumination installed and/or activated by the city - some of which are directed (in violation of city policy) toward residential areas; high intensity parking lot lights for satellite parking for Children's Hospital (which may also be in violation of zoning); area illumination for low income housing (which includes lights that are not

only unshielded, but in fact send more light skyward than toward the ground); past temporary installation of high intensity parking lot lights in the north shore area which have been directed toward residential areas; proposed lighting for tennis courts; proposed lighting for the off leash area which is significant because it encroaches on an area which is now not illuminated and adjacent to the lake and natural area.

Those listed lights are known to be significant based on complaints made to Sand Point Magnuson Park. It must also be noted that the previous EIS for the transfer of the Naval Station to the City dismissed consideration of lights on the basis that there would be no bright lights installed at Magnuson Park. The City has now installed many lights without benefit of environmental review or even upfront public comment and now proposes to install many additional lights with incomplete evaluation. Mitigation must be provided for all lights: current and proposed.

### **Noise**

The DEIS refers to the existing city noise ordinance as if to imply that it will be protective for residential areas for noise produced at the park. The DEIS also states that there have been no complaints of athletic field day time noise from neighbors as if to imply that there will be none for night games as well. The DEIS preparers are well aware there could be no night time games complaints in the absence of night time games. These statements are patently false in the context of the existing proposal.

The park staff knows well that there have been numerous complaints resulting both from noise and lights generated by various night time activities (as well as some day time activities) at the park. These complaints have spanned the entire period the city has managed the site. Plainly, noise and light are an existing problem that will become much worse under the proposed action.

These past complaints demonstrate that the existing ordinance is inadequate to prevent noise and light disturbance in the surrounding neighborhood. The FEIS must document these complaints.

The DEIS states that the existing site topography and conditions will act to reduce noise in the hillside neighborhood to the west. This claim is unsubstantiated and contrary to

8  
L&G3  
SEPA5  
(cont'd)

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SEPA12

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NOI1

the physics of sound propagation, transmission, and reflection in an amphitheater setting; especially one subject to meteorological conditions frequently present at this site.

### **Wetlands**

The DEIS states without substantiation that the proposed wetlands and perimeter trail will increase visitor walking opportunities. This statement is directly contradicted by the numerous statements of park users at public hearings held in the fall of 2001 at the park. Those statements clearly indicated a preference for the free circulation over the entire area as now exists on constructed and volunteer trails. The proposed plan will greatly reduce the area available to public access. Any such statement by the FEIS must be supported by visitor use surveys.

11  
WET3

The DEIS fails to account for the summer temperature extremes to be produced in the shallow confined waters of the open water wetlands. What will be the temperature reached and what will be the effects on salmonids exposed to those waters?

12  
WDLF6

The DEIS fails to account for the potential of increased predation on juvenile salmon as a result of their presence in the confined shallows (in a possibly weakened condition due to high water temperature).

## Eric Friedli - Magnuson Park DEIS

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**From:** Joan and Chuck Sienkiewicz <cjsienk@earthlink.net>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/21/2002 11:47 PM  
**Subject:** Magnuson Park DEIS

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Dear Mr. Friedli;

I wish to comment on the DEIS for the proposed lighting of the sports fields at Magnuson park.

Specifically this DEIS fails to identify off site alternatives. Is this not a requirement? It would appear that the parks Dept. is solving all its lighting woes at this one location in the city. Other sites must be considered with a fair number of lighted fields being distributed throughout the city.

The DEIS inadequately addresses the impact of traffic on the surrounding neighborhood. How can you have an increase of 2260 more cars per day on the road and only a 3% increase in congestion. The traffic on Sand Point Way appears to have doubled in the last three years and on street parking has made it a more dangerous thoroughfare without the added increase described here.

It would appear that the DEIS has not actually measured or reported the actual amount of light that will be impacting the environment and the neighborhood. This information would help people make an informed decision. The demonstration lighting and resulting sky glow could easily be seen from my home on N.E. 77th St, supposedly two blocks north of the affected area.

In addition the DEIS takes a very light view of the impact to the wildlife in the surrounding park and wetlands. The effects will be devastating as members of the Audubon Society have testified. This project is an insult not only to the creatures in the wild but to our new families and neighbors who are now making their first homes at Sand Point. Their new surroundings will now become industrialized with inescapable glaring light. One might ask why they would even want to live there.

Joan Sienkiewicz

Joan & Chuck Sienkiewicz  
5710 NE 77th  
Seattle, WA 98115  
206.528.5747  
cjsienk@earthlink.net

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SEPA1

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TRAN1

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L&G2

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WDLF1

5  
L&G2

**Eric Friedli - Sand Point/Magnuson Park Sports Complex**

---

**From:** Al Skaar <skaar@oo.net>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/14/2002 10:40 PM  
**Subject:** Sand Point/Magnuson Park Sports Complex

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Dear Mr. Friedli,

After reviewing the Seattle Parks and Recreation DEIS for Sand Point Magnuson Park, it seems clear that the lighted sports complex that has been proposed is a truly unfair and unbalanced plan. It will have a tremendous negative impact on the residents of the View Ridge neighborhood, the environment, and wildlife.

The impact will be especially hard on the 3000 or so residents of View Ridge, Sand Point transitional housing, apartments and condos - who are practically right on the site of the planned complex. The establishment of this transitional housing was part of the reason that the city was able to acquire the Magnuson Park property from the Federal Government in

the first place. A sports complex of this magnitude will make living conditions intolerable, especially to young, working families with children.

Play fields are one of the benefits that a park provides. However, I believe there are too many fields in the proposal for Magnuson. Seven fields should add substantially to the number available in the area. Additional fields should be planned in other neighborhoods, where they will be closer to the residents of those areas who want to use them. It would cut down on travel time and traffic. And it would more fairly distribute the burden of hosting organized sports.

The fields at Magnuson Park should not be lighted at all. Where fields are synthetic, they are played round-the-clock during daylight hours. ANY extension into the evening leaves working families almost NO quiet time in their own homes any night of the week. Daylight use of the Magnuson Park fields should be sufficient, especially if additional fields are built, or upgraded in a variety of locations throughout the city.

One of the ironies of this proposal is that the neighbors of this complex will probably never be able to use it since the Park Department will likely want to maximize the return on their investment and restrict

use to league play. What percentage of prime field time do you think should be set aside for drop-in use?

This proposal is for one of the largest lighted sports field developments in the region. It will draw players and private leagues from all over the region. One of the reasons given for the development of this complex is the lack of facilities that allow kids to practice and play organized sports. I support youth athletics. However, fields lit with 640,000 watts of lights, supported on 80 foot poles, until 11pm., 365 days a year is not just for the kids.

Please consider the huge negative impact that implementation of this plan would have on the quality of life of the neighbors of Magnuson

Park. Please also consider the unfairness of the burden that a complex of this magnitude would bring to the residents of this area. Encourage the Parks and Recreation Department seek a lesser alternative.

Thank you.

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S/O4

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REC2

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L&G2

6  
SEPA7

Al Skaar & Joyce Teshima  
7060 - 56th Ave. NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

**Eric Friedli - Sand Point Magnuson Park**

**From:** Al Skaar <skaar@oo.net>  
**To:** "Peter.steinbrueck" <Peter.steinbrueck@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Neil.powers" <Neil.powers@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Stephanie.pure" <Stephanie.pure@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Rose.Rapoza" <Rose.Rapoza@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "jim.Compton" <jim.Compton@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "George.Allen" <George.Allen@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Irene.Namkung" <Irene.Namkung@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Linda.Robson" <Linda.Robson@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Richard.Conlin" <Richard.Conlin@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Elaine.Ko" <Elaine.Ko@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "SaraE.Nelson" <SaraE.Nelson@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Phyllis.Shulman" <Phyllis.Shulman@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "jan.drago" <jan.drago@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "barbara.clemons" <barbara.clemons@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "krista.bunch" <krista.bunch@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Nick.Licata" <Nick.Licata@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Newell.Aldrich" <Newell.Aldrich@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "lisa.herbold" <lisa.herbold@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Richard.Mciver" <Richard.Mciver@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Paul.Elliott" <Paul.Elliott@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Yvonne.Newson" <Yvonne.Newson@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Eric.Parsons" <Eric.Parsons@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "judy.nicastro" <judy.nicastro@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Jill.berkey" <Jill.berkey@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Charlie.Mcateer" <Charlie.Mcateer@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Marette.Spence" <Marette.Spence@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Margaret.Pageler" <Margaret.Pageler@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Linda.Stores" <Linda.Stores@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Malik.Davis" <Malik.Davis@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Jenny.Mccloskey" <Jenny.Mccloskey@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Heidi.Wills" <Heidi.Wills@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Michael.Fong" <Michael.Fong@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Katy.Carter" <Katy.Carter@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Jo.Chavira-bash" <Jo.Chavira-bash@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "eric.friedli" <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "cdavid.hughbanks" <cdavid.hughbanks@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Mayors.Office" <Mayors.Office@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/28/2002 12:10 AM  
**Subject:** Sand Point Magnuson Park

Dear Seattle Mayor and City Council members:

I am a homeowner in the View Ridge neighborhood. My home overlooks Magnuson Park. My wife and I are extremely concerned about the impact the proposed sports field complex will have on our (and our neighbors') quality of life... and our property values.

After reviewing the DEIS for the Sand Point Magnuson Park Sports Fields project, I have come to believe that this plan is not a reasonable balance between good use of our parks and the impact on the neighbors of Sand Point Magnuson Park.

- This proposal would put nearly one fourth of the total number of Seattle's lighted fields in Magnuson Park. The proposed plan will be the largest public parks sports field complex in Seattle. It is unfair to expect one neighborhood to absorb the impact of a project of this magnitude.

- The proposal places 11 lit fields at Magnuson, compared with an average of 2.5 lit fields at 19 other locations in the city.

- The DEIS states that, "Virtually all of the single-family residential area west of Sand Point Way is located west of the Burke Gilman trail and above elevation 125 feet, and would have limited or no exposure to direct glare from the sports field lights." That is not true. Our home is well above the Burke-Gillman, and during the lighting demonstration the glare from the 3 light poles was intrusive and distracting. The thought of 80 poles with 640,000 watts of light blasting into our windows until 11 p.m. every night is horrifying.

- Everyone who lives in View Ridge knows that the residential hillside acts as an amphitheater. The DEIS only made noise measurements at Sand Point Way and failed to make any readings from the neighboring hillside. All noise is amplified up the hill, traveling well beyond the park into the residential areas. How are we supposed to sleep when athletic games are played on 11 lit fields until 11:00pm every night?

- The DEIS proposal limits construction activities to daylight hours

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for compliance with the City's Noise Ordinance. Why doesn't the Ordinance limit noise generated from the use of 15 sports fields to daylight hours?

- Why is our city spending 12 million dollars and asking for countless donations to ruin a beautiful natural park area when we can't even afford to repair our city streets and highways or build a mass transit system?

There is no question that we need sports fields, but parks are also about open space, wildlife, and a refuge from the noise and pace of urban life.

We need a more balanced, reasonable, and humane alternative to this current proposal.

Thank you for your careful attention to this important issue.

Al Skaar  
7060 - 56th Ave. NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

**Eric Friedli - Sandpoint Magnuson Draft Environmental Impact Study**

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**From:** Maureen Smith <msmith@walshconstructionwa.com>  
**To:** "eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us" <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/27/2002 7:15 PM  
**Subject:** Sandpoint Magnuson Draft Environmental Impact Study

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Eric Friedli,

I have been playing soccer for over twenty years. My passion for the game started as a youth player and has continued into my adult years. I am well aware of the benefits of sports and that is why I continue to participate in them. I am also View Ridge homeowner, and equally passionate about my home and neighborhood. Our homes and neighborhoods are our place of refuge away from the day to day grind, and while we do live in the city, it is not an excuse to turn our neighborhood into a Las Vegas style Sports Spectacular! I urge you to seriously consider the significant impacts the Sandpoint Magnuson Park proposal will have on both the environment and adjoining neighborhoods.

I have briefly review the Sandpoint Magnuson Draft Environmental Impact Study and have many concerns.

**Traffic Concerns:** According to the DEIS, the development of 15 sports fields (11 with lighting) will cause a "major expansion of capacity and use levels." Traffic will increase by 2260 more cars per day on nearby arterials. Despite this expansion, DEIS claims "project-related increases in traffic volumes would be less than 3 % at most intersections affected, and no more than 7 %." How can you have major expansion and minor congestion? Both NE 65th and NE 70th are residential streets that run directly through our neighborhood. The View Ridge Community Council discusses current neighborhood traffic problems at every meeting. The DEIS does not adequately address the current traffic problems let alone the even greater traffic delays which will occur with the new sports fields.

**Noise Concerns:** Sports field use will expand from "3,700 hours to 20,000 hours" (section 3.3.2.3, page 321) with the proposed plan. The DEIS concludes that "additional users and extended hours of use of [the] sports field complex would result in more frequent park use noise that might be carried beyond the project site...and would not likely be significant in off-site residential areas." Currently there are a couple of fields in use at Magnuson Park and the sounds of fans, players, referees and traffic is very much audible from my home. The DEIS only made noise measurements at Sand Point Way and failed to make any readings from the neighboring hillside. All noise is amplified up the hill, traveling well beyond the park into the residential areas. How are we supposed to sleep when athletic games are played on 11 lit fields until 11:00pm every night? I can not even imagine.

**Lighting Concern:** My biggest concern is the Parks oversight on the significant impact artificial lighting will have on both the local wild life and human life. The Audubon Society says artificial light at the wrong time of year interferes with wild life reproduction and confuses their natural migratory patterns. As a resident and witness to the recent lighting demonstrations at Magnuson Park the glare and the light glow were literally sickening. The DEIS fails to provide data on the effects of light, glare, and sky glow on the adjacent neighborhood and natural environment under the ruse that they are not obtainable. In fact, critical data is obtainable: albedo (the brightness of an object) is measurable and quantifiable; reflectance (how much an object reflects light) is measurable and quantifiable; atmospheric scattering (which causes the air around a luminaire to appear lit) is measurable and quantifiable. These parameters, individually and collectively, will determine how the proposed lighting impacts the environment. The "latest technology" for lighting will do little or nothing to alter these fundamental parameters of the environment

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into which the lights are placed. Lighting must be measured and quantified under wet and dry conditions and expressed in terms understandable to the lay reader to render an informed decision.

There must be a reasonable balance between the needs of the overall community and the local Sandpoint Magnuson Community. The current plan as it stands is gluttonous. I appreciate your serious consideration of these issues and again urge you to consider the impacts.

Sincerely

Maureen R. Smith

7331 58th Ave NE

Seattle, WA 98115

Smithreilly@yahoo.com

**Eric Friedli**

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**From:** Scott Smith <SSmith@wgclark.com>  
**To:** "eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us" <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/27/2002 6:43 PM

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I am writing you as a sports field user and a resident of the View Ridge/Sandpoint area. I am well aware of the benefits of sports and the positive effects of them. That is part of the reason I participate in them. Being able to witness the lighting demonstration that the parks department put on, I am also aware of the significant negative health effects that lighting will have the surrounding neighborhood. This lighting demonstration only had 12 lights - and the parks department is proposing 640! How can this not be significant?

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L&G2

I have briefly read through the draft environmental impact statement and find it to be very misleading. For example: "Based on the existing urbanized environment and the limited magnitude expected for the project, the impact of the project on sky glow evident in the surrounding area would likely be insignificant." Anybody reading this would assume that it won't impact the surrounding neighborhood. This is completely incorrect! I witnessed the limited lighting demonstration, and its obvious that it will significantly impact the surrounding area. There are many more examples of this misleading analysis that I noted and I would be happy to discuss them should you have the time.

In closing, I must say that I am disgusted to see such a disregard for peoples well-being and the neighborhood in which they live in.

Sincerely,  
Scott Smith  
Sports field user and resident of View Ridge  
7331 58th Avenue NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

**Eric Friedli**

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**From:** Scott Smith <SSmith@wgclark.com>  
**To:** "eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us" <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/28/2002 8:42 AM

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I have read through the DEIS statement for the Sandpoint/Magnuson Park sports fields and have noticed that it does not provide any data on the effects that the light, glare, and sky glow on the adjacent neighborhood and natural environment under the ruse that they are not obtainable. In fact, critical data are obtainable: albedo (the brightness of an object) is measurable and quantifiable; reflectance (how much an object reflects light) is measurable and quantifiable; atmospheric scattering (which causes the air around a luminaire to appear lit) is measurable and quantifiable. These parameters, individually and collectively, will determine how the proposed lighting impacts the environment. The "latest technology" for lighting will do little or nothing to alter these fundamental parameters of the environment into which the lights are placed. Lighting must be measured and quantified under wet and dry conditions and expressed in terms understandable to the lay reader to render an informed decision.

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L&G1

Secondly, the DEIS fails to consider the visual perception of light. Of great significance, but not considered, is the human perception of contrast between light and dark objects. This factor will be especially significant for the neighborhood to the west and south of the park. Although direct glare may not exceed a certain arbitrary level at adjacent properties, observers at those properties will see brightly illuminated surfaces and atmospheric scattered light and reflected light from clouds. Those illuminated surfaces will be juxtaposed with a very dark background of unlit areas and pinpoint lights across lake Washington. The contrast will be extreme and will prevent observation of those darker areas. This visual perception phenomenon must be considered in the EIS.

I look forward to seeing these issues addressed.

Thank you for your time,  
Scott Smith  
View Ridge Resident

February 7, 2002

Mayor Greg Nickels  
1100 Municipal Building  
600 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Mayor Nickels:

I am writing you to voice my **strong opposition** to the plans to build and light 11 soccer fields at Magnuson Park. I have been a home owner in the View Ridge neighborhood since 1986. I cherish and pay for, with ever-increasing property taxes, my view of Lake Washington and the park. It is highly disturbing to me that the city plans to install 80 poles with 640 luminaires that will be lighted until 11pm year-round. I was appalled when I witnessed the demonstration of lighting with only a few lights! People stay in View Ridge and move to View Ridge because they cherish the pristine views of the Lake and the mountains. The last thing I, or my neighbors on the hill or in the housing in the park, want to look at is high-voltage lighting. Additionally, the park supports wildlife –birds, raccoons, owls, pheasants, and other animals-- who seem to have ever diminishing places where they can live. A number of those creatures are nocturnal and will be negatively affected by the increased lighting and human habitation until late hours.

In addition to the offensive sight of bright lights shining in our windows until 11pm, I have said nothing about the significant environmental impact of the additional people in cars visiting the park. I highly object to having the soccer fields in use until 11pm each night—well past dark. Sandpoint Way is hardly suited to the additional traffic that this plan will bring to the area. Those of us who live in the neighborhood will be **negatively impacted on a daily basis** with this traffic. This says nothing about the noise that will be generated by the people at the fields, which carries great distances, until late in the evening. The DIES completely ignored the substantial environmental impact of noise levels. Additionally, I suspect bringing in large volumes of people will also increase the crime rate in the neighborhood. **If these fields must be added the VERY LEAST the city could do is to close them at an earlier hour—9pm at the latest!**

**Please reconsider this plan.** Why must so many fields be built? Why must they stay open so late at night? Why must the fields have such obscenely bright lighting? As a home owner and as a person who has dearly loved the privilege of my proximity to such beautiful and relatively untarnished beauty, I am very disheartened about the City's plan. I fear that this privilege is coming to an end-- to say nothing of the fact that my investment as home owner will be negatively impacted by the declining property values this plan is sure to bring.

Sincerely,

  
Cheryll Sorensen  
6900 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE

cc: ✓ Eric Friedli, Director of Operations, Sand Point/Magnuson Park  
Kenneth Bounds, Superintendent, Parks and Recreation  
Seattle City Council Members: Peter Steinbruek, Heidi Wills, and Nick Licata

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TRAN1

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NOI1

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PSU1

6  
SEPA3

## Eric Friedli - Sand Point Plan for Sports Fields

---

**From:** Francis Spelman <francisspelman@yahoo.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/28/2002 12:07 PM  
**Subject:** Sand Point Plan for Sports Fields

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Mr. Eric Friedli  
 Planning and Operations Director  
 Sand Point Magnuson Park  
 Department of Parks and Recreation  
 7400 Sand Point Way  
 Seattle, WA 98115

Eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us

Dear Mr. Friedli:

The City's plan to build eleven lighted sports fields in Magnuson Park distresses me on several counts that are glossed over in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). I am a neighbor of Magnuson Park and sit on an advisory committee for Sand Point Community Housing Association. I make use of Magnuson park for recreation and am pleased at the way that the Housing Association helps people to move from homelessness into productivity.

The impact of the sports fields will be severe and adverse on the residents of the transitional housing at Sand Point. In some cases, the light from the fields will shine directly into their windows. Since the light will shine until 11 PM 365 days per year, that will certainly disturb the rest and lives of the residents at Sand Point. The sound of the traffic on Sportsfield Drive will exceed the limits defined as acceptable by the City standard for noise. No mitigation is planned. Again, the residents will suffer as a result.

Construction is planned FOR TEN YEARS. No mitigation is planned for the noise and increased traffic resulting from that construction. The movement of earth into and out of Magnuson Park will affect the residents of SPCHA adversely; indeed, it will have an adverse effect on the neighborhoods of View Ridge and Hawthorne Hills as well. None of that is addressed appropriately in the DEIS.

The wetlands will be affected adversely by 640 lights on eleven fields. Many of the creatures that inhabit the wetlands are nocturnal. Artificial lighting that is maintained for the major part of the day will have a deleterious effect on those animals and on the ecology of the wetlands. If wetlands are mandated to be preserved, this certainly violates the mandate.

I oppose strongly the plan as it is presently proposed. I look forward to your response explaining the way that my concerns will be addressed.

Sincerely yours,  
 Francis A. Spelman, Ph.D.  
 6322 54th Avenue Northeast  
 Seattle, WA 98115  
 FrancisSpelman@yahoo.com

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L&G2

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NOI1

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NOI3

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WDLF1

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S/O4

**Eric Friedli - Sports Field Plan at Sand Point**

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**From:** <Francis220@aol.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/28/2002 12:04 PM  
**Subject:** Sports Field Plan at Sand Point

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Mr. Eric Friedli  
Planning and Operations Director  
Sand Point Magnuson Park  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
7400 Sand Point Way  
Seattle, WA 98115

Eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us

Dear Mr. Friedli:

The City's plan to build eleven lighted sports fields in Magnuson Park disturbs me on several counts that are glossed over in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). I am a neighbor of Magnuson Park and sit on an advisory committee for Sand Point Community Housing Association. I make use of Magnuson park for recreation. I am delighted with the way that the Housing Association helps people to move from homelessness into productivity.

The impact of the sports fields will be adverse and severe on the residents of the transitional housing at Sand Point. In some cases, the light from the fields will shine directly into their windows. Since the light will shine until 11 PM 365 days per year, that will certainly disturb the rest and lives of the residents at Sand Point. The sound of the traffic on Sportsfield Drive will exceed the limits defined as acceptable by the City standard for noise. No mitigation is planned. Again, the residents will suffer as a result.

Construction is planned for ten years. No mitigation is planned for the noise and increased traffic resulting from that construction. The movement of materials into and out of Magnuson Park will affect the residents of SPCHA adversely. It will have an adverse effect on the neighborhoods of View Ridge and Hawthorne Hills as well. None of that is addressed appropriately in the DEIS.

The wetlands will be affected adversely by 640 lights on eleven fields. Many of the creatures that inhabit the wetlands are nocturnal. Artificial lighting that is maintained for the major part of the day will have a deleterious effect on those animals and on the ecology of the wetlands. If wetlands are mandated to be preserved, this certainly violates the mandate.

I oppose strongly the plan as it is presently proposed. I look forward to your response explaining the way that my concerns will be addressed.

Sincerely yours,  
Kay D. Spelman  
6322 54th Avenue Northeast  
Seattle, WA 98115  
Francis220@aol.com

Please see  
comments  
contained in  
Letter I301

**Eric Friedli - Playfield Lighting at Sandpoint**

**From:** "diane c. stein" <steins@u.washington.edu>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/22/2002 2:32 PM  
**Subject:** Playfield Lighting at Sandpoint  
**CC:** <ken.bounds@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <cdavid.hughbanks@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <inde52@aol.com>, <mayorsoffice@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <margaret.pageler@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Sam & Carol Goldenberg" <samgo@u.washington.edu>, <jim.compton@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <richard.conlin@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <jan.drago@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <nick.licata@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <peter.steinbrueck@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <richard.mciver@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <judy.nicastro@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <heidi.wills@ci.seattle.wa.us>

2/22/02

Dear Gentlepeople,

I have never written a letter such as this, especially to such an august group of people. What motivated me, was my shock at finding bright glaring klieg lights shining in my living room window on , I believe, Now 18th, 2001. I subsequently found out that this was apparently a test of the 85(?) lights planned for Magnusen Park. I am appalled! I'm sure I speak for my wife and many of my neighbors who also never write! I see that many of you have fought for parks, historic preservation and other environmental causes. I know that you all want to do the best you can for all of your constituents. I hope this letter will encourage you in that direction.

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L&G2

I have read all of the literature and arguments of the View Ridge Community, the sports field community and excerpts from the DEIS. I won't bore you by repeating so-called "talking points." I just want to point out that I am glad for the diverse interests and communities at Sandpoint including, sports, homeless, arts, sailing, environment, ecology, etc.. My concerns are twofold: 1) Overdevelopment of a beautiful ever so slightly "wild" park and 2) the highLIGHTing of one constituency's priority over everybody else's.

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SEPA3

With the exception of two or three spaces and eyesores such as the old PX, I believe Magnusen Park has just about the right level of development as is. The Beauty of so many Seattle Parks such as Discovery Park, Lincoln Park, Seward Park and many others is that they are not overdeveloped. If the plan proposed in the DEIS is implemented, it will make Central Park in New York City look like a Wilderness Area in comparison. Don't ruin a beautiful peaceful refuge already used by a large number of Seattle citizens and others.

My first associations to the glaring lights in my window were to Nazi Concentration Camps and the improvised, temporary detention center for WTO protesters. I don't believe this is the intended purpose of urban parks. Such bright lights on every evening will have a major impact on virtually every park stakeholder. Homeless children and families, artists, neighbors, elderly, wildlife and others. This will also affect our neighbors across the lake in Kirkland & Redmond. In addition to the horrible glare of the lights, sports field development will bring more noise and traffic. We already have enough traffic problems in Seattle. Noise carries loud and clear from Magnusen. It is one thing to have the temporary inconvenience of traffic and noise on an occasional summer afternoon for a concert by Pearl Jam or Nirvana. It is another to suffer glare, noise and traffic evening after evening. Some of us, including soccer kids I hope, need our sleep and go to bed early.

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Finally, in this day of Boeing Bust, Tech Bust and state and local deficits, why are we planning to spend so much money overdeveloping this park when there are much more pressing concerns - unemployment, homelessness, hunger,

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SEPA11

wildlife, drug treatment, mental health - I could go on.  
And how much will it cost to keep these monstrous lights on? And what if we compromise and only keep them on from 4:00 PM to 6:00 or 7:00 P.M. in the winter? Isn't this an inefficient use of a large capital investment? Build some more play fields if you wish, but PLEASE don't disturb the peace, quiet and beauty of a quasi-natural park which, with only a few more positive changes will provide the greatest good for the greatest number of people and other creatures.

Sincerely yours,

Eugene J. Stein, Ph.D.

**Eric Friedli - Sand Point Draft EIS**

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**From:** "ralph stemp" <ralphstemp@iname.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 1/22/2002 10:33 AM  
**Subject:** Sand Point Draft EIS  
**CC:** Andy Benjamin <gahb54@u.washington.edu>, <holmebld@effectnet.com>

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Is there a page in the Sand Point draft EIS dealing with funding? I could not find anything on the web site. Perhaps you can point me by return e-mail.

The short notice indicates that \$12 million in funding is available. What is the estimated total cost of Sand Point?

When do the 5 soccer fields with all-weather surfaces and lights get done in the proposed ten year construction plan?

If there is "not enough" money, what part of the construction project gets totally "delayed", partially delayed, or is it all delayed until total funding is available?

Thank you.

Ralph Stemp  
ralphstemp@iname.com

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PD1

STEVENSON, J

I309  
P1

**Eric Friedli - playfield lighting at Magnuson Park (fwd)**

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**From:** "A. Stevens" <astevens@u.washington.edu>  
**To:** <ken.bounds@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 1/29/2002 10:54 AM  
**Subject:** playfield lighting at Magnuson Park (fwd)

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Dear Mr. Bounds,

I realize the need for lighted fields, but please temporize on the type of lighting and the hours of lighting. Instead of 11:00 pm as the cut off, please have them off by 10:00pm. Night lighting changes the feeding, breeding and migratory behavior in birds and other wildlife. Fog and rain, with the subsequent glare, makes these effects worse. There is no need to have "shielded conventional lights" on 85 foot poles at the 2 largest baseball fields. I have talked to Dell Armstrong at Soft Lighting Systems and he says that "full cut off" lighting is suitable for baseball fields as well as soccer fields. He says that many high schools baseball fields outside the Seattle area have gone to "full cut off" lighting and are pleased. These include Woodinville, Bothell and Lynwood. "Full cut off" lighting is not as good for the spectators, but is great for the players. I don't think that there will be a lot of spectators at the games.

Sincerely,

Jane H. Stevens  
5711 N.E. 77th St.  
Seattle WA 98115  
206-525-8895

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WDLF1

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PD9

**Eric Friedli - sportsfield lighting at Magnuson Park (fwd)**

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**From:** "A. Stevens" <astevens@u.washington.edu>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 1/29/2002 2:57 PM  
**Subject:** sportsfield lighting at Magnuson Park (fwd)

---

Dear Mr. Friedli:

I am a citizen very concerned about the lighting proposal. Last night, as I viewed the full moon in a background of dark sky, it occurred to me that next year at this time, we might hardly see the full moon; certainly the effect will be spoiled by intense artificial lighting. I am now quite aware of the proposal: 85 ft tall poles, about 80-90 of them, each with multiple lamps, numbering close to 600! I attended the demonstration last month, and retreated up the hill, and noted the obvious glare at 56th Ave, from just three lights down on the field. The EIS states that virtually all of the homes above the Burke-Gilman Trail "would have limited or no exposure to direct glare from the sports field lights." THAT IS SIMPLY NOT TRUE. On View Ridge and surrounding areas, night will be turned into day. It will be a certain intrusion on the quality of life. The "shielded conventional lights" planned for the large baseball fields will face the hillside and be most obnoxious. Is it fair to so impact this large neighborhood, which is like a huge amphitheater looking down on Magnuson Park?

An additional important negative impact will be on wildlife. A U.W. trained biologist, Nathaniel Wheelwright, now Prof of Biology at Bowdoin College, has described "the effect of extending daylength on just about every type of organism, plant or animal. Seasonal biological rhythms are entrained by photoperiod. Flowering in plants, feeding patterns and pupation in insects, reproductive physiology in birds, all are well known to be affected by daylength."

I urge you to block, or severely modify, this unwise change in nature.

Sincerely yours,  
Alexander R. Stevens MD  
5711 N.E. 77th St.  
Seattle WA 98115  
206-525-8895

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L&G2

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WDLF1

January 18, 2002  
 Eric Friedli  
 Director of Operations  
 Sand Point Magnuson Park  
 7400 Sand Point Way  
 Seattle, WA 98115

Carol Stewart, RN  
 7841 56<sup>th</sup> Place NE  
 Seattle, WA 98115  
 206-729-3862

Dear Mr. Friedli,

I have received the recent information on the changes proposed to Sand Point Magnuson Park and want to register my comments and objections. As a neighbor and frequent user of the park, I want to see the maximum amount of land protected as wetland. I feel the wetland habitat offered for city residents at Sand Point provides a welcome respite from the otherwise noisy and bustling environment throughout the city. One of the reasons I moved to this area relates directly to the enjoyment of the Burke-Gilman corridor and the natural areas of Sand Point. While I would be happy to see us provide a few more playing fields, I would not want them lit as proposed.

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I object to the lighting for 2 reasons. One, I am a nurse that must get to sleep early in the evening because I have to get up for work at 5 AM. If the playfields are lit, that means people will be playing and yelling on those fields when I need to sleep. The noise travels up the hill. I know this because at the View Ridge pool when they have a swim meet, I can hear EVERYTHING even though they are at the bottom of the hill! However, the swim meets are infrequent, and do not last long into the night.

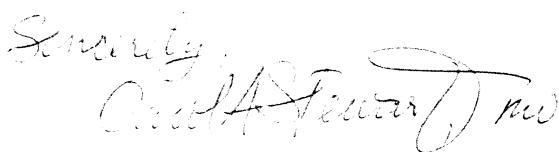
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NOI1

I feel that people, who play on those fields, get to go home when they are finished, but I am home, and I need to sleep. As a nurse, I understand how important sleep/wake cycles are for people in health maintenance. It is so important that pharmaceutical companies make money providing medications so people can sleep. However, medications of this nature are not recommended on a permanent basis, and should be discontinued after 2 weeks. I would need to follow through with further action should the Parks department field noise interfere with my ability to sleep after 9:30 pm. The importance of sleep is well documented in the literature and I will be sending it under separate cover.

Secondly, I feel the natural cycles of sleep/wake are as important for animals and birds as they are for humans. If we want the birds of the wetlands to stay here and stay healthy, we need to consider their health. Considering the budget shortfalls this year, I feel that the benefits of NOT lighting the fields include financial savings from the electricity in addition to the health of the environment. So, now, there is a third reason not to light the proposed fields.

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I understand that people in the community need more fields. I have traveled around the city following little league soccer and baseball games for our 2 boys. I never need the address if it's a night game, because I see the lights from half a mile away. I feel if people want night games they should build more fields around industrial parks where lighting is already maintained and already destroyed the environment. I am happy to travel downtown to those areas for night games. Please do not give up the beautiful jewel of wetland habitat and serene park that started at Sand Point Magnuson Park. Thanks for your time and attention.

Sincerely,  


**Eric Friedli - ball fields at Magnuson Park**

---

**From:** "Swedberg, Nicole" <nswedberg@spu.edu>  
**To:** "cdavid.hughbanks@ci.seattle.wa.us" <cdavid.hughbanks@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/6/2002 12:19 PM  
**Subject:** ball fields at Magnuson Park

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> Dear David,  
>  
>

My name is Nicole Swedberg, my address is 6914 57th Ave. NE, and I am against the proposed development of ballfields at Magnuson Park as described in the DEIS. As one of the many parents in View Ridge neighborhood and as an educator, I will describe to you how the increase in noise level will translate into an invasive impact on families' evening routines.

I would like to describe for you what bedtime is currently like at my house. Then I'm going to describe to you what this routine will be like if the proposed action is carried as described in the EIS.

Currently, between 7:30 and 8:00 p.m. every night, my husband and I read to our two young children, ages 2 and 5. We read picture books to our youngest child and chapter books to our older child in a routine that is so important that we never miss it. Then, we put our children into their quiet bedroom, and they go right to sleep, and they sleep the recommended hours for their age, which happens to be eleven. Now multiply this experience by several hundred, and you can picture in your mind what most families of young children are doing right about the time the ball games at Magnuson Park are proposed to get underway.

What I have described to you is not just a sweet family scenario, but parenting techniques recommended universally by pediatricians, educators, and educational researchers.

Some of the benefits to children of hearing stories read aloud include language development, particularly vocabulary growth and the hearing of complex sentences; experiences with the phonemes and letters, background knowledge, conceptual knowledge, imaginative thinking, and, finally, the emotional closeness and security of hearing a story on a parents' lap with no interruptions-no phone, no work, no washing the dishes-just a parent and a child, reading together.

The benefits of getting a full night of uninterrupted sleep are well-known and include cognitive development, bone growth, emotional resilience, and success in school. I can tell you first hand from teaching kindergarten and first grade that children who are well-rested can settle down, pay attention, and work on-task.

Now let's cut to a different scenario, the scenario of 11 ballfields that become active right at the point of this crucial bedtime routine every night of the year. In this scenario, we try to read bedtime stories to our children, but we are competing with what amounts to an enormous live TV screen that plays ballgames every night. And in this proposed ballfields scenario, when we try to put our children down to sleep at 8:30, we are again competing with live sports coverage. While we may be able to pull our blinds and shut out the lights, we will not be able to turn off the volume. In the summer when our windows have to be open because of the heat, the noise will be particularly invasive.

While some families in the neighborhood will not see the giant TV screen, they will all hear the spectator noise, as View Ridge Hill acts as an amphitheater, projecting park noise upward. And it will far worse for all the people who will live right on the park in Sportsfield Drive and in Radford Court, for whom, as indicated by the testimony of Dr. Peter Dahl,

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the noise will far exceed the acceptable level of background noise. In Radford Court there are currently already 70 children of age 10 and under, all of whom should be in bed sleeping peacefully by 9:00. The number of units will more than double in size over the next year, so it is reasonable to extrapolate that in the next year, more than 100 young children will be the potential victims of sleep interruption.

In small, dense living communities such as apartments, dorms, and hospitals, there are quiet hours that begin around 8 or 9 o'clock, out of respect for the quiet things that most of us do in the evenings. For families with young children, these quiet hours should be a given, should be non-negotiable. The DEIS under discussion has failed to address this issue of children missing crucial developmental routines so that adults can play soccer and baseball.

Thank you for your concern,  
Nicole Swedberg  
Reading Faculty  
Seattle Pacific University  
School of Education.  
>

## Eric Friedli - Athletic Field Lighting at Sand Point

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**From:** "Steven H. Swedberg, M.D." <swedberg@qwest.net>  
**To:** "eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us" <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/7/2002 8:39 PM  
**Subject:** Athletic Field Lighting at Sand Point

---

Dear Mr. Friedli,

I am writing again to express my extreme dismay at the plan for inordinate sports fields lighting at Sand Point. After purchasing and reviewing the Draft Environmental Impact Statement I disturbed by the plan to use 80 poles and 640 luminaries at 1000 watts each for a total of 640,000 watts of light shining into my bedroom until 11:00 every night. At the demonstration, even though the lights are shielded there was significant reflection from the surface. This plan will light up the whole neighborhood!

This will have a significant impact on my quality of life and is clearly and unfair burden.

With regard to the quality of the DEIS in regard to the lighting impact significant data was not gathered. The DEIS failed to provide data on the effects of light, glare, and sky glow on the adjacent neighborhood and natural environment under the ruse that they are not obtainable. In fact, critical data are obtainable: albedo (the brightness of an object) is measurable and quantifiable; reflectance (how much an object reflects light) is measurable and quantifiable; atmospheric scattering (which causes the air around a luminaire to appear lit) is measurable and quantifiable. These parameters, individually and collectively, will determine how the proposed lighting impacts the environment. The "latest technology" for lighting will do little or nothing to alter these fundamental parameters of the environment into which the lights are placed. Lighting must be measured and quantified under wet and dry conditions and expressed in terms understandable to the lay reader to render an informed decision.

The DEIS fails to consider the visual perception of light. Of great significance, but not considered, is the human perception of contrast between light and dark objects. This factor will be especially significant for the neighborhood to the west and south of the park. Although direct glare may not exceed a certain arbitrary level at adjacent properties, observers at those properties will see brightly illuminated surfaces and atmospheric scattered light and reflected light from clouds. Those illuminated surfaces will be juxtaposed with a very dark background of unlit areas and pinpoint lights across lake Washington. The contrast will be extreme and will prevent observation of those darker areas. This visual perception phenomenon must be considered in the EIS.

Thank you for your attention in this matter. I look forward to moving toward a more reasonable proposal.

Sincerely,

Steven H. Swedberg  
 206.729.6047

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L&G2

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L&G1

**Eric Friedli - Re: Joint Athletic Facilities Development Plan and the Proposed Sand Point Magnuson Park Sports Complex**

---

**From:** "AlexaVance" <AlexaVance@email.msn.com>  
**To:** "Dewey Potter" <Dewey.Potter@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/10/2002 3:56 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Joint Athletic Facilities Development Plan and the Proposed Sand Point Magnuson Park Sports Complex  
**CC:** "Eric Friedli" <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>, "Alix Ogden" <alix.ogden@ci.seattle.wa.us>

---

Thank you for forwarding my email but I noticed that when I copied/taped my comments into the email I somehow only copied the latter half of my comments. It also is not clear if my attachment was forwarded so I am including a more recent version of it in this email.

Previous email:

I have lived in Hawthorne Hills for nine years. Before that I lived on Capitol Hill where my two children participated in CYO and adult league soccer. While my children were in school, I coached CYO soccer teams and for a number of years was the Saint Joseph's Soccer Coordinator. I have played on adult soccer and baseball teams. I regularly attend Seattle Mariner games. In summary, I can hardly be called anti-sports or anti-children. As an engineer, it would be quite a stretch to call me anti-technology or anti-progress.

On January 24th and February 4th I attended Public Hearings at the Park Department and Sand Point Magnuson Park, respectively. I testified at both hearings against the Park Department staff's recommendation to the Board of Park Commissioners that the 2001-2002 Joint Athletic Facilities Development Plan (JAFDP) be approved by the Board and sent to the City Council. I did this because the staff has decided to postpone evaluating "operational issues" (i.e. concerns of neighborhoods) until after the JAFDP is forwarded to the City Council.

As I pointed out in my testimony, I consider this decision contrary to the basic tenets of SEPA and the Guiding Principles 3 and 5 of the JAFDP to "Be a Good Neighbor". Fast-tracking of an incomplete JAFDP prior to implementing provisions needed to protect nearby neighborhoods from irreversible environmental impacts, glaring lights until 11:00 pm, noise, and traffic congestion is wrong. Furthermore, the recommendation to brief the Board on lighting standards and scheduling policies after forwarding the JAFDP to the City Council is akin to closing the public vault after the organized adult sport leagues have made off with the loot. The "loot" being almost a monopoly on playing time for nearly twenty neighborhood fields with hundreds of new 65, 75, and 85 foot poles and banks of 1,000 watt lights. A lighting consultant for the DEIS admitted at a public hearing that the Sand Point Magnuson Sports Complex will be the largest such sports field lighting project in the Northwest.

Lastly, the fast-tracking of the JAFDP to the City Council prior to the end of the public comment period for the Sand Point Magnuson Park Sports Complex DEIS is illogical. It is also irresponsible that the DEIS public review period for this massive project is less than 60 days.

**I have attached a comparison of the proposed Sports Complex for your review.**

At the two hearings it was clear that parents and concerned citizens from across the entire city were frustrated and upset at the Park Department's staff continued preferential treatment of organized, adult athletic leagues over the serious concerns and needs of impacted neighborhoods. I therefore urge that a MORATORIUM be imposed on all further field development involving artificial turf and high intensity lights until the concerns of the surrounding neighborhoods are really addressed. The JAFDP should not be approved until a real community/Park Department dialog occurs with firm commitments to resolve neighborhood concerns.

Sincerely,

Vance Thompson

6002 50th North East  
Seattle, Washington 98115  
[alexavance@msn.com](mailto:alexavance@msn.com)

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Dewey Potter

**To:** [AlexaVance@email.msn.com](mailto:AlexaVance@email.msn.com)

**Cc:** Alix Ogden ; Eric Friedli

**Sent:** Sunday, February 10, 2002 12:47 PM

**Subject:** Re: Joint Athletic Facilities Development Plan and the Proposed Sand Point Magnuson Park Sports Complex

Dear Ms. Vance,

Thank you for your e-mail. I have forwarded it both to Eric Friedli, operations director at Sand Point Magnuson Park, who is collecting comments on the Draft EIS, and to Alix Ogden, who is the senior staff person for the updates to the Joint Athletic Facilities Development Program.

Sincerely,

Dewey Potter

Public Relations Manager

Seattle Parks and Recreation

206-684-7241

Visit our web site at [www.cityofseattle.net/parks](http://www.cityofseattle.net/parks)

>>> "AlexaVance" <[AlexaVance@email.msn.com](mailto:AlexaVance@email.msn.com)> 02/07/02 11:54PM >>>

tracking of an incomplete JAFDP prior to implementing provisions needed to protect nearby neighborhoods from irreversible environmental impacts, glaring lights until 11:00 pm, noise, and traffic congestion is wrong. Furthermore, the recommendation to brief the Board on lighting standards and scheduling policies after forwarding the JAFDP to the City Council is akin to closing the public vault after the organized adult sport leagues have made off with the loot. The "loot" being almost a monopoly on playing time for nearly twenty neighborhood fields with hundreds of new 65, 75, and 85 foot poles and banks of 1,000 watt lights. A lighting consultant for the DEIS admitted at a public hearing that the Sand Point Magnuson Sports Complex will be the largest such sports field lighting project in the Northwest.

Lastly, the fast-tracking of the JAFDP to the City Council prior to the end of the public comment period for the Sand Point Magnuson Park Sports Complex DEIS is illogical. It is also irresponsible that the DEIS public review period for this massive project is less than 60 days.

I have attached a comparison of the proposed Sports Complex for your review.

At the two hearings it was clear that parents and concerned citizens from across the entire city were frustrated and upset at the Park Department's staff continued preferential treatment of organized, adult athletic leagues over the serious concerns and needs of impacted neighborhoods. I therefore urge that a MORATORIUM be imposed on all further field development involving artificial turf and high intensity lights until the concerns of the surrounding neighborhoods are really addressed. The JAFDP should not be approved until a real community/Park Department dialog occurs with firm commitments to resolve neighborhood concerns.

Sincerely,

Vance Thompson  
6002 50th North East  
Seattle, Washington 98115  
E-mail: [alexavance@msn.com](mailto:alexavance@msn.com)

**COMPARISON OF THE PROPOSED, REGIONAL SPORTS COMPLEX AT SAND  
POINT MAGNUSON PARK TO SAFECO BASBALL FIELD**

Regional Sports Complex at San Point Magnuson Park	Safeco Field
<b>SPORTS FIELD COMPLEX:</b> Eleven lighted, sports fields [Five Baseball fields, five Soccer fields, and one Rugby field]	One major league baseball field and stadium. Next to soon-to-be-open football/soccer stadium.
<b>SIZE OF SPORTS COMPLEX:</b> 153 acres are intended to be developed into the Sports Complex and Wetlands/Habitat area. <b>87.9 acres</b> (58% of the entire Project) will be devoted to the Sports Complex and associated support facilities.	Safeco Field occupies <b>19.6</b> acres.
<b>BASEBALL FIELD SIZES:</b> (2) of the baseball fields will have 370 foot centerfield fences, the remaining (3) fields will have 225 foot centerfield fences	Centerfield is 405 feet, only 35 feet longer than (2) of the Magnuson Park baseball fields.
<b>OTHER PROPOSED SPORT AREAS:</b> (14) NEW tennis courts (the existing 6 would be removed) (3) NEW "service/support complexes" containing concession stands and restrooms. (4) unlighted sports fields in a Sports Meadow area	No tennis courts or unlit sports fields but lots of concession stands and restrooms.
<b>TYPE, USAGE, AND MAINTENANCE OF FIELDS:</b> 11 synthetic fields to allow play <b>365</b> days a year.  The DEIS states that synthetic fields will require cleaning "every 1 to 4 weeks, using a sweeper to remove leaves, needles, and other debris, and a blower to remove larger leaves as required. Chewing gum residue would need to be frozen and chipped off of turf fibers as required. Sunflower seeds and other small debris that gets into the in-fill would need to be vacuumed. Every 2 to 4 months, as required, field surfaces would be brushed to bring up matted fibers, redistribute in-fill material and reduce in-fill compaction." <i>Is this really how we want our taxpayer money spent? Surely there are more pressing social and infra-structure needs in this enlightened city than spending considerable time and money to brush and blow-dry (11) huge fields as if they were</i>	1 grass field. Typically <b>80</b> regular season games/year. Not all games are at night.

<i>the hair on our heads.</i>	
<p><b>TOTAL ESTIMATED HOURS OF PLAY/YEAR:</b> The DEIS states that “Based on hours of use, (the) project represents approximately (a) <b>six-fold expansion</b> of capacity for sports field activities.”</p> <p>The DEIS states that “The number of recreational visitors to the project site and the total annual hours of on-site recreational use would increase dramatically with the proposed action, primarily in conjunction with the major capacity expansion represented by the sports field complex. The existing sports fields at Sand Point Magnuson Park were used a total of approximately 3,700 hours during calendar year 2000. ....The proposed sorts fields would provide the capacity to support over 20,000** hours of field use, suggesting that future sports field use would likely be several times larger than the current numbers.” <i>**The real number of hours (contained in the 2001-2002 JAFDP) intended for Magnuson Park is <b>22,300</b>. This number of hours represents nearly 26% of the total number of playing hours of the 18 fields listed in the JAFDP (Attachment D) for “development” (lights and synthetic turf).</i></p>	<p>Assuming 7 hours for pre-game/ game/post game and 80 home games a year, (conservatively assumed to all be night games) = <b>560</b> hours.</p>
<p><b>LENGTH OF CONSTRUCTION PERIOD:</b> The massive Magnuson Park Sports Complex will take over <b>10 years</b> to construct because the Parks Department does not yet have the money for Phases 3, 4, and 5. More Park Levies must be just around the corner. No wonder there isn’t money to fix potholes.</p>	<p>Construction Time: <b>2 ¼ years</b></p>
<p><b>NEIGHBORHOOD FIELDS VERSUS A REGIONAL SPORTS COMPLEX?</b> A “first class sports facility for residents in the northeastern Seattle, and to some extent the <b>broader city and surrounding region</b>” at Magnuson Park. (The “some extent” part is grossly understated.)</p>	<p>A regional baseball stadium next to a regional football/soccer stadium.</p>
<p><b>ACCESS TO SITE:</b> Primarily accessible only by residential area streets, some of which are choke points (45<sup>th</sup> Avenue leading down to University Village, Husky Stadium and the Montlake Bridge area. Limited bus service.</p> <p>The proposed plan will put <b>2,260 additional cars on the road to Magnuson Park EVERY DAY.</b></p>	<p>Accessible by downtown streets, I-5 freeway, Washington State ferry, and extensive bus service.</p>
<p><b>PRESENT LIGHT ENVIRONMENT:</b> Residential neighborhood with short light poles, few telephone poles. Backdrop at night is dark lake and distant lights across Lake Washington. The DEIS</p>	<p><b>Highly industrial area.</b> Some people, mostly</p>

<p>calls the area “an highly urbanized area”. Yes there are probably over 800 families in the View Ridge and Hawthorne Hills area but because of the size and setting of the area, it can hardly be called highly urbanized – implying a bustling metropolis.</p>	<p>without children, live in condominiums several blocks away.</p>
<p><b>LIGHT POLES, LIGHT FIXTURES, AND USAGE:</b> 80 poles, ranging from 65 to 85 feet tall with <b>(640) 1,000 watt lights on until 11:00 PM, 365 nights a year.</b> The range of lights being on is from 2.5 to 7 hours/night depending on the season = 4.5 hours on average.</p> <p>Security lights for the fields will be on <b>all night, 365 days/year.</b></p> <p>Ignoring the security lights and parking lot lights, <u>every night of the year</u> the Regional Sports Complex will put out <math>640 \text{ kw} \times 4.5 \text{ hrs} / (535 \times 2 \text{ kw} \times 7 \text{ hrs}) = 38\%</math> of the amount of light shown during a <u>single</u> Mariner night game.</p>	<p><b>(535) 2,000 watt lights</b> in an enclosed stadium with a roof and steep stadium seats. Safeco Field is typically only used for approximately 80 regular season games a year.</p> <p>Assume 7 hours of light due to pre-game/post game activities.</p>
<p><b>SIZE OF LIGHTED AREA:</b> The (11) lighted fields will stretch from 65<sup>th</sup> to 74<sup>th</sup> Street and will constitute in excess of 19% of ALL lighted athletic fields in Seattle. <b>Upon being pressed by an audience at a public meeting last fall, the lighting consultant admitted that the Sports Complex would be the largest such outdoor lighting project in the NORTHWEST.</b></p>	<p>Lots of lights, but contained in a structure which minimizes light spillage and sky glow when roof closed. <b>Lighted area is only 22% of the lighted Sports Complex at Magnuson Park.</b></p>
<p><b>SKY-GLOW:</b> The lighting consultant for the DEIS admitted during a public hearing that synthetic fields reflect up to 30% more light back up into the night than grass or dirt fields. This will contribute to “Sky-Glow” when low clouds or overcast conditions exist. The DEIS says that sky-glow will not be a problem. The View Ridge community photograph discussed below proves otherwise.</p>	<p>Sky-glow is evident but is not greatly objectionable due to industrial neighborhood and is minimized if roof is closed.</p>
<p><b>GLARE:</b> The View Ridge community took a night-time</p>	<p>Glare is evident</p>

photograph of a lighting demonstration put on by the Parks Department in November, 2001. The demonstration only had four 1,000 watt lights on three, 83 foot cranes. Contrary to what the DEIS said, these 12 lights glared into homes all over View Ridge and Hawthorne Hills, from 58<sup>th</sup> Street all the way up to 49<sup>th</sup> Street. It is clear to anyone who saw the November lighting demonstration at the Park that the proposed project will have significant, adverse environmental impact.

The November demonstration showed three different types of lights. The worst glare was from the conventional/shielded lights. The DEIS says that latest technology lights would be used to mitigate glare. Contrary to this statement the DEIS later shows that conventional/shielded lights will be used on the tallest (85 foot) poles surrounding the two major league sized baseball fields.

The DEIS states that "Primary exposure of non-park users to direct glare from sports field lights would be in residential area of Sand Point campus directly west of Sports Field Drive, primarily Buildings 224, 6, 26N and 26S." When Sand Point Magnuson Park was developed, the City, to their credit, built transitional housing on the west edge of the Park facing Sand Point Way. One of the main purposes of these units was to allow people to re-build their lives in a conducive setting. As noted at a public hearing on 4 February, the families living in the Park do not want to be at ground zero looking directly into the (640) 1,000 watt lights.

The orientation of the baseball fields was chosen to have the most advantageous wind directions. Unfortunately this means the lights shine toward the View Ridge and Hawthorne Hills neighborhoods. Another example of ignoring the neighborhood.

but is not greatly objectionable due to industrial neighborhood and because the steep stadium walls (and roof if closed).

Orientation of field makes no difference in light shine because of industrial nature of neighborhood, high stadium walls, and roof.

<p><b>PARKING LOT LIGHT POLES, LIGHT FIXTURES, AND USAGE :</b> (4) NEW Sports Complex Parking lots. These lots will provide space for 991 vehicles. <b>867 of these parking spaces will have security lighting.</b> These lights in the parking lots could easily be on until 11:30 so players and spectators can go to their cars, change wet uniforms, etc.</p> <p>73 poles (40 foot tall) will support lights in the (4) Sports Complex parking lots and Kite Hill/Beach Drive parking lot</p>	<p>Multi-story, mostly enclosed parking lots</p>
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## Eric Friedli - Sand Point Magnuson Park - Sports Field Lighting

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**From:** Claudine Trafford <trafford@u.washington.edu>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/4/2002 8:37 AM  
**Subject:** Sand Point Magnuson Park - Sports Field Lighting

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Dear Mr. Friedli,

I object to the proposed Sand Point Magnuson Park sports field lighting proposal in as strong terms as possible. My home is located on the hillside west of the Park and will be most seriously impacted by the light and noise associated with this project. I observed the lighting demonstration and can tell you that both my living room and master bedroom were illuminated by the lighting. It would be unbearable to live with what is proposed. I would have to lower my blinds every evening, shutting out the view from my home that I have so enjoyed for many years and have worked so hard to keep.

I also object to the proposal from the standpoint of the park wildlife. It was my understanding that this park is also a wildlife sanctuary. It is clear to me that the birds and animals who live within this sanctuary will be greatly disturbed by the increased light and noise, and will undoubtedly be displaced once again by human interference. This precious park location should be treasured as a small, natural retreat within a huge city. There are other sites for sports fields where the noise and light would not so negatively impact both humans AND wildlife so drastically.

And, finally, I object to the use of city funds being used on a project that benefits so relatively few. Our streets are in a dreadful state, and during these times of budget restrictions, the funds would be far better spent on city "housekeeping." The tax dollars come from the citizens of this city. I implore you to heed the voices of those citizens on this matter. Please DO NOT proceed with the current plans for Magnuson. The great Senator for whom this park is named, would share our concerns.

Claudine Trafford

1  
L&G2

2  
WDLF1  
3  
WET3

4  
SEPA1

5  
SEPA11

**Eric Friedli - Magnuson Park**

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**From:** "Charles Trafford" <c.trafford@worldnet.att.net>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/8/2002 3:54 PM  
**Subject:** Magnuson Park

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Dear Honorable Mayor, City Council Members, and Parks Department Members,

I strongly object to the plan from the Seattle Parks Department to develop and light 11 sports fields at Magnuson Park. My reasons for this objection are as follows:

**MASSIVE SCALE OF THE SPORTS FIELD LIGHTING.** The proposed plan will be the largest public parks sports fields complex in Seattle. If completed as proposed, the Magnuson Park site would become a veritable industrial area of athletic fields with 3% of the present number of illuminated fields in the city--11 at Magnuson versus 47 now throughout the city.

**DEIS FAILURE TO PROPOSE OFF-SITE ALTERNATIVES (p.2-50).** The DEIS fails to consider off-site alternatives. The State SEPA Guidebook specifically states that public projects are REQUIRED to consider off-site alternatives.

**FAILURE OF THE DEIS "LESSER ALTERNATIVE" PROPOSAL (P. 2-42).** An honest and fair reduced capacity alternative would have no more than three illuminated fields (the rounded-up average of all present sites) with none of those being baseball fields.

**RESIDENTIAL - IMPACT OF LIGHTING.** One-fourth of the lights will be "shielded conventional lighting" on 75-85 foot poles at the two of the largest baseball fields. The outfield lights from these two fields will be facing directly into the hillside homes of View Ridge residents and the DEIS does NOT include a lesser alternative to reduce the impact of this lighting.

The DEIS states that "Virtually all of the single-family residential area west of Sand Point Way is located west of the Burke-Gilman Trail and above elevation 125 feet, and would have limited or no exposure to direct glare from the sports field lights." During the lighting demonstrations, residents (including me) were able to witness significant glare from their living rooms and bedrooms. What will it be like when we jump from a demonstration of 3 light poles to the proposed 80 light poles? I invite any of you to visit my home in the evening so you can observe the negative impact of lighting on my home from the UW Radford Court Project. I now have to lower my blinds at least half-way in order to escape from THIS glare.

6  
S/O4

7  
SEPA1

8  
SEPA2

9  
L&G2

The proposed proliferation of artificial lighting threatens to block the residential view of the moon and stars. Although the neighboring hillside (to the north for me) has ambient street lighting, the residents will view the sports lights against a dark lake. How can the effects of sky glow be insignificant when the Parks Department plans to turn on 640,000 watts of light until 11:00 p.m. every night?

9  
L&G2  
(cont'd)

IMPACT OF TRAFFIC. Both NE 65th and NE 70th are residential streets that run directly through our neighborhood. The DEIS does not adequately address the current traffic problems let alone the even greater traffic delays which will occur with the new sports fields.

10  
TRAN1

IMPACT OF NOISE. Everyone who lives in View Ridge knows that the residential hillside acts as an amphitheater. The DEIS only made noise measures at Sand Point Way and failed to make any readings from the neighboring hillside. All noise is amplified up the hill, traveling well beyond the part into the residential areas. How are residents suppose to sleep (especially on warm, summer nights when windows are opened) during athletic games being played on 11 lit fields until 11:00 p.m. every night? The DEIS fails to consider the absence of masking noise during the night. They fail to address the fact that noise perception from day to night differs.

11  
NOI1

IMPACT ON CITY FUNDING. Why is our city spending 12 million dollars and asking for countless donations to ruin a beautiful, natural part when we can't even afford to repair our city streets and highways or build a mass transit system?

12  
SEPA11

IMPACT OF LIGHTING ON WILDLIFE. The DEIS admits to the negative impact night lighting will have on wildlife. There are many documented studies on the impact of lighting on the feeding and behavior in animals and on behavior of migratory birds. I thought the Magnuson Park was a wildlife sanctuary. This jewel of a park now offers city residents a location for the enjoyment of nature and the many birds and other wildlife who reside there. It offers a lovely retreat from the NOISE AND LIGHTS of the busy, outside world. I always feel refreshed and more relaxed after a walk through the park where I have been also thrilled to observe wildlife. If the park is developed as the Parks Department proposes, it will be negatively altered FOREVER. What a sad legacy for those of you who are the current decision makers for the city. I believe that Senator Warren Magnuson, that great senator for whom the park is named, would be outraged by the lack of your future vision.

13  
WDLF1

Sincerely,

Claudine Trafford

**Eric Friedli - Magnuson**

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**From:** "Charles Trafford" <c.trafford@worldnet.att.net>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/27/2002 12:20 PM  
**Subject:** Magnuson

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Dear Honorable Mayor, City Council Members, and park Department Officials

I have been in contact with each of you before regarding the Magnuson Park Lighting Proposal. I wish to re-emphasize in the strongest terms possible that I object to the Park Department's lighting proposal for Magnuson Park.

14  
S/O4

I have lived in View Ridge since 1962 and clearly remember what a good neighbor the U.S. Navy was when they occupied Sand Point Naval Air Station. I also remember when the air base was closed and there was a huge effort to keep the runway available for private airplanes. There was strong opinion that both the active runway and the public use of the park could be compatible. I'm certainly glad that the decision was made against the private airplane proposal. Think where we could be now if that had been approved.

The situation today is very comparable. We have a lovely park that offers a retreat for Seattle citizens. There is an active beach and there are other facilities available. In fact, the huge buildings vacated by the military certainly could be put to good use in addressing some lack of sports activity locations.

We also are blessed with a natural environment for birds and wildlife that certainly should be considered in any proposed change. The changes the Parks Department proposes would undoubtedly be permanent and I can't help but imagine that future generations would wish that a broader vision for the Park had been evident. Our green spaces are shrinking and the population expanding. We need more retreats, not more concrete and lights.

Furthermore, the impact of lighting on the residential community in View Ridge, and even as far away as Kirkland and Redmond, would be very negative. During the lighting demonstration, I (as many other residents) witnessed significant glare from their living rooms and bedrooms. I invite any of you to visit my home in the evening so you can observe the negative impact of lighting from the UW Radford Court Apartments on my home. My front porch is illuminated by the glare and I now have to lower the blinds in my living room in order to escape from THIS glare. This is exceedingly frustrating when I enjoy a beautiful view, and I might add, am taxed for that view.

15  
L&G2

I also have great concerns about the level of noise. I'm not sure any of

16  
NOI1

you are truly aware how noise travels up the hillside of View Ridge. Even sounds from the lake are magnified for us because the View Ridge hillside acts as an amphitheater.

16  
NOI1  
(cont'd)

Finally, I most strongly object to the \$12 million cost of the proposed Sand Point Project. The City of Seattle is in great need of attending to many truly basic housekeeping issues such as our terribly maintained city streets. How can we justify spending this huge amount of money on park development when drivers in Seattle have experienced damage to their cars because of the pot holes on the streets.

17  
SEPA11

I can't help but wonder how any of you would react to the proposed lighting if your home were located in our neighborhood. I also wonder if you really care all that much about the negative impact on our wildlife that would occur if you follow through with the proposed plan. Doesn't anyone speak to the rights of these creatures? I remember when there were pheasants living in Magnuson Park. As more and more use was made of the park, these birds either were killed or simply left because there was no longer a quiet enough environment for them.

18  
WDLF1

For the reasons stated above, I implore you to reconsider your plans.

Sincerely,

Claudine Trafford

February 27, 2002

Eric Friedli  
Planning and Operations Director  
Sand Point Magnuson Park  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
7400 Sand Point Way NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

Re: Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
Drainage, Wetland/Habitat Complex and Sports Fields/Courts Project

After some study of the above referenced document, I must make the following comments for the record.

1) The proposed athletic field complex has far too many fields. If the Proposed Action were to be implemented, the DEIS predicts a six fold increase in usage hours for the fields over and above the current field hours. This increase in use generates only insignificant increases in noise, and traffic and unavoidable or insignificant impacts of light glare according to the DEIS. Those conclusions are an attempt to gloss over the reality of effects of what is being proposed. The proposal will not only dramatically increase traffic, noise and light glare in the surrounding neighborhood, but will have a profound negative impact on the others that will be using the park simultaneously. Because of the limited scoping of the DEIS, other users such as boaters, walkers, picnickers, birders, bicyclers, kite flyers and the like are not adequately considered. The peace and quiet enjoyed by passive users now, would forever be lost. Passive users of the park are the majority but their numbers have never been studied by Parks or the DEIS, a glaring omission. At the same time and in the same neighborhood, the University of Washington is doubling the number of housing units at Radford Court directly adjacent to the south end of the park and Children's Orthopedic Hospital is building across the street from the park. These two huge projects will contribute to traffic in particular, but are not included except to mention that some light glare might reach Radford Court.

1  
NOI1  
TRAN1  
L&G2

2  
REC1

3  
TRAN1

2) Drainage, Wetland/Habitat Complex. If the Proposed Action were to be implemented, I have several questions I want answered:

Q. What will be deposited in the sediments of the wetland in the way of petrochemicals, metals, and other possible toxins carried in artificial turf runoff? I have a vial of what appears to be ground automobile tires used on the surface of Jane Adams fields. This material floats from several minutes up to hours in water and is the size of grains of sand. I feel that this material does not belong in proximity to wetlands. And in ten years time how much and what will build up in sedimentary mud that is being used to "cleanse" the water coming from acres of parking lots and artificial turf fields? This sediment will be used by feeding shorebirds and amphibians that are extremely sensitive to pollution.

4  
WTR4

Q. What kinds of construction/demolition debris and/or asphalt or concrete debris will be used in fill for the synthetic turf fields? How much pollution will be contained in the runoff from this material if any is used?

5  
PD7

Q. How does the study quantify the effects of noise, lights and pollution on the Wetland Habitat when there is so little information available concerning the set of circumstances being proposed by the DEIS? The birds, amphibians and mammals that will return to the habitat area after construction likely will not tolerate well the light and noise any more than humans would living in such close proximity to so much activity during the day or night. This leads one to conclude that the wetland habitat will serve only as a glorified drainage ditch for the fields.

6  
WDLF1  
WET3

Q. How does the city propose to dispose of all the acres of artificial turf when it wears out in ten years?

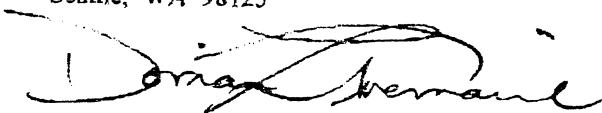
7  
PD5

Because the proposal includes one pond (the furthest south) that will "be deep enough to tap into ground water throughout the year" and thus be inundated year round, it opens the door to invasion by **bull frogs**. **Bull frogs** are invasive and will not miss this opportunity to move into that area and spread out during the year to feed on indigenous inhabitants of the wetland.

Q. How does the plan justify including a permanent pond when it is well known that bull frogs will utilize it? It may be that historically there was a large pond that existed in the area, but given the presence of bull frogs in the region now it will mean the eventual disappearance of our indigenous frogs and possibly other creatures in Magnuson Park.

All these and other proposed "improvements" to Sand Point/Magnuson Park will have far reaching effects on the community. The repeated phrase in the DEIS that these will have little or no effect on the neighborhood or that the effects are unavoidable is an insult to the citizens of this wonderful community. The greatest benefit will be mainly for the few thousand soccer players who of course want state-of-the-art playing facilities. I believe taking another look at the dense pack approach as in the Citizen's Plan would be worth while for the Parks Dept. and City Council. Magnuson Park should not be turned into a regional athletic facility. This is a rare opportunity to create a park of distinction and peace in a world that has fewer such places every day.

Dorian L. Tremaine  
10645 Sand Point Way NE  
Seattle, WA 98125



8  
WDLF2

9  
SEPA3

3:25 pm 2/4/02

MRS. TULCHINSKY  
SAND PONTEN CONDO.

① TRAFFIC TOO MUCH

1  
TRAN1

② TOO MUCH NOISE

2  
NOI1

RES DEVELOPMENT + SHOULD STAY DEVELOPMENT

③ LAND + PROPERTY VALUES

3  
SEPA6

**Eric Friedli - Draft EIS - sportsfields/wetlands some comments**

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**From:** John Turnbull <JTURNBULL@lorig.com>  
**To:** "Eric Friedli (E-mail)" <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 1/10/2002 11:12 AM  
**Subject:** Draft EIS - sportsfields/wetlands some comments

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Good start and very thorough - A couple graphic suggestions for exhibits that would make them easier for me to understand and might help others as well.

Comparison plans between Proposal and Lesser Development would be MUCH easier to use if printed on the same page - since this would require reducing size of drawings it'd work best if there was a way to fade out the background information and have the relevant changes dominate the graphic - I know that I spent a lot of time flipping back and forth trying to discern the difference between the two - I think it's much easier to comprehend side by side/ or top and bottom.

The marsh ponds are an intriguing concept but I couldn't find a good graphic - obviously a good thing to model but some detail section drawings would work too - if Berger could add some sketched in people and cattails to provide scale to sections similar to those done by Rosewater ? I think it's okay to exaggerate vertical scale and you can keep it honest with a line break to condense horizontal distance.

Since sports field lighting is such an issue - a series of drawings allowing the reader to "zoom in" and "zoom out" from viewpoint of direct and indirect light spill from at least three perspectives - from parking lots by ball fields, from a bit further away (65th or Sandpoint) and then in a territorial "section" spanning from ball fields to upper heights of view ridge ( with horizontal condensed). Please show light pattern "rays" when using sections/elevations to define high intensity and low intensity lighting zones.

Does Berger have photos that would show representative examples of the different environments in different wetland zones, sportsfields?

Since there is an admittedly limited difference between the proposed and lesser capacity alternative - perhaps you could add another column to the comparison table of 1-12 through 1-27 which identifies "rejected" or "alternatives NOT proposed" with accompanying rationale - i.e. (

- grading which would require significant off site import -export
- use of off site ground water sources to feed wetlands
- not lighting any fields
- using different types of light fixtures other than full cut off or modified
- reducing the number of all weather surfaces on fields
- other than those provided from third alternative To define the limited difference between alternatives -
- providing bleacher/spectator facilities
- providing single purpose - everything on one - through path

Is there a way to use graphics or chart to show how expected traffic volumes would increase in either alternative that could help identify the projected impact on top of current demand - but adjusted for season/time of day and overlaid with how background traffic levels vary at same times. I gather that traffic is expected in crease evenings and weekends - for example

perhaps adding three columns to table 3.12 -6 which would show when increase is likely to occur - before noon, noon- 5, 5 - midnite.

While DEIS indicates you have projected traffic based on other projects in the pipeline through 2007 could you identify the net change between those expected impacts and current volumes? Proposed action may increase volumes of 4.3% over no action but won't no action itself be several percentage points above conditions as they exist today?

Thanks for the chance to comment

## Eric Friedli - Lighting of the sports fields at Sand Point/Magnuson is a bad idea

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**From:** <WJVW@aol.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/13/2002 10:55 PM  
**Subject:** Lighting of the sports fields at Sand Point/Magnuson is a bad idea  
**CC:** <mayors.office@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <dewey.potter@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <jim.compton@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <richard.conlin@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <jan.drago@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <nick.licata@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <richard.mciver@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <judy.nicastro@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <margaret.pageler@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <peter.steinbrueck@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <heidi.wills@ci.seattle.wa.us>

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Dear Sir,

As residents of View Ridge with a direct view of the area that is projected to contain the eleven sports fields at Sand Point/Magnuson Park that are being considered for lighting, we are vehemently opposed to any lighting being added. One of our children is a soccer player in the local leagues but this does not sway our opinion that lighting of the fields is a bad idea.

Lighting will have negative effects on the other residents of SP/M as well as on neighbors like us. The transitional housing residents at SP/M who will be the closest to the fields will suffer the most, yet they have little voice in the matter as they are only 'temporary' residents. Lack of consideration of the impacts of lighting on these people in need is missing.

Wildlife in the park will suffer. How will the hawks, eagles, and other birds that reside in SP/M react to the artificially extended days? Probably by leaving, we believe, which definitely sounds like an adverse environmental impact.

What will the area look like on nights with low ceilings (a quite common occurrence) when the 'down lighting' will bounce off those shiny fields and off the bottoms of the clouds to brighten the entire area? For residents like us, accustomed to seeing a darkened park, the lake, and beyond, we'll see a big white glare. Your two nights of 'tests' proved that. This, too, sounds like an adverse environmental impact commonly known as light pollution. How do you plan to compensate residents affected by this pollution?

Finally, the proposal to light the fields until 11:00 pm daily throughout the year seems ridiculous. Is Seattle planning to close down other soccer venues and move all the leagues to SP/M fields? If so, this doesn't appear in the EIS. A projected schedule for the fields that demonstrates the need to light the fields to this late hour (way past when most children are in bed) would have been helpful. We think that the future demand for these fields, low as it is now, will likely be unchanged unless you aren't telling us about Seattle closing other park playfields to soccer. If you have justified the need for lighting to this late hour in a quantitative manner, we have not come across that analysis.

In light of all the detrimental effects that have not been adequately addressed, we therefore go on record as being opposed to any lighting of the prospective sports fields at Sand Point / Magnuson Park, now or in the future.

Thank you,

William and Catherine Vanderwilt  
 7307 58th Avenue NE  
 Seattle, WA 98115

1  
S/O4

2  
L&G2

3  
WDLF1

4  
L&G2

5  
SEPA3

**Eric Friedli - DEIS for Sand Point Magnuson Park**

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**From:** "M. Lee Van Horn" <vanhorn@u.washington.edu>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/20/2002 12:36 PM  
**Subject:** DEIS for Sand Point Magnuson Park

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Dear Mr. Friedli,

I am writing to comment on the draft environmental impact statement for Sand Point Magnuson Park. I'm writing to support proposed changes that would enhance the environmental value of the land for wildlife. However, I oppose the changes that would greatly increase the number of sports fields at the park, especially proposals to add lighting to those fields. As a View Ridge resident I am concerned about the effects of increased traffic and noise generated from these proposals. I am more concerned, however, with proposals for lighting that will severely effect the neighboring community. While the proposal states that light will be contained in the areas around the field, it is undeniable that the addition of so many lighted fields that will be lighted for so many hours a year will greatly affect the character of the neighborhood.

Already the lights around the old commissary building are having an impact and demonstrate that the park does not do a good job of using lighting responsibly. These lights are left on until late during the night, most nights, for seemingly no purpose. There are no cars there, no people there, but the whole parking lot and building are ablaze with light. For us it means that the key feature of the neighborhood during the evening is a huge empty building. I'm not so opposed to lighting a field only when it is being used, but the proposal seems to call for the fields to be lighted every night, and the current use of lighting demonstrates that the park is not capable of doing this. The use of lighting that is inconsistent with patterns of usage does harm to the community while providing absolutely no benefit.

Of the three options considered in the impact statement, the no change option would best meet these concerns. However, I urge a fourth option that includes the development of wet lands and habitat improvement, but greatly scales back the development of the sports fields and greatly limits the installation of lighting and works with the community to schedule any lighting that is installed.

Thank you for considering this comment.

M. Lee Van Horn, Ph.D.

\*\*\*\*\*

M. Lee Van Horn  
Research Analyst  
Social Development Research Group  
University of Washington

Email: [vanhorn@u.washington.edu](mailto:vanhorn@u.washington.edu)  
Phone: 206 616-8572  
Web: <http://www.alabamatrail.org/lee>

\*\*\*\*\*

1  
S/O4  
2  
TRAN1  
NOI1

3  
L&G2

4  
S/O5

**Eric Friedli - Sand Point/ Magnuson Park Field Sports Development**

---

**From:** John Verrilli <johnv@u.washington.edu>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/10/2002 10:38 PM  
**Subject:** Sand Point/ Magnuson Park Field Sports Development  
**CC:** Matt Cone <MCone@corillian.com>, Steph Cone <stcone@attbi.com>

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Dear Eric Friedli

I am writing to inquire why lacrosse usage has been totally ignored in your Sand Point/ Magnuson Park Sports Fields Development Plans: <<http://www.cityofseattle.net/parks/parkspaces/Images/bwplan-detail2.jpg>> I remember reading about how the Rugby players came to a public meeting "en masse" and demanded a field reserved for them in your master plan, yet there are still 8 fields reserved for soccer and 1 for "Mod Soccer". There are more Seattle residents playing lacrosse than Rugby but because they chose to not disrupt one of your public planning meetings, they have been disenfranchised from this process.

In case you may be unaware, there is an active and growing lacrosse program in Seattle as evidenced by teams from Middle School, High School, College and Club here comprising participants from 11-50 years of age with males and females represented and are mostly tax paying citizens here. Most of the teams are well represented on the <walax.com> website.

I am quite confident their representatives would be happy to meet with you to discuss their desire to be included in the plans for Sand Point/Magnuson Sports Fields Development. I have been an active member of that community since 1973 and have been very grateful for the help of John Bates, Athletic Field Scheduling Coordinator for the Seattle Parks Department, with the local needs of both the Club and now Middle and High School teams.

I urge you to meet with Matt Cone, Washington Chapter President for US Lacrosse to discuss the equal needs of the lacrosse community here.

Thank you for your consideration.  
John Verrilli

1  
PD10

## Eric Friedli - New playfeilds for Ruby,soccer,Baseball,etc in Magnuson park

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**From:** "Yuen Ling Wan" <ylwan@telus.net>  
**To:** <mayors.office@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <margaret.pageler@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <jim.compton@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <richard.conlin@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <jan.drago@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <nick.licata@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <peter.steinbrueck@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <richard.mciver@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <judy.nicastro@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>, <heidi.wills@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/27/2002 2:03 PM  
**Subject:** New playfeilds for Ruby,soccer,Baseball,etc in Magnuson park

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I recently purchased a home on 52nd Ave. for retiring there in a couple of years.I have read the proposal re above by the council, I am delighted that the city is doing some improvements for the enjoyments of the children and the neighbouhood area.However the following are my concerns:

1.The 15 fields will be very NOISY every time they are used, the noise will travel all the way up the hill to affect the WHOLE of VIEW Ridge area.

1  
NOI1

2. The traffic in Sandpoint way will be impossible to use, so will 65th St. and all roads leading to Sandpoint way, if we look at the daily traffic in the section of Sandpoint near the UW stadium, we can feel what is coming every evening and weekend when these fields are in use

2  
TRAN1

3. the lights in the base ball fields would produce a lot of scattered lights and glares far away

3  
L&G2

4. Many View Ridge residents who live in the area will probably sell out and move because of the Noise, Glare, Traffic problem, which will impact on families where children go to bed by nine pm, as well as older retired people who are there because of the QUIET residential neighbourhood. The people that most likely to enjoy the noise and traffic would be the young ones who parties into the night.

5.If the current resident mass migrate to other areas, the property tax will drop because of lower property values, it will affect the STEADY and DEPENDABLE income of the city council , this income will be hard to be replaced by the intermittent rental income of renting out the courts to local clubs

4  
SEPA7  
SEPA6

I am sure may be the council has already been considering the above concerns and is trying to find a happy medium to provide playing fields for the kids but also to address problems that could affect the neighbourhood residence abilities to enjoy their home after a hard day's work.

Most important I am sure the council does not want the fields to trigger a mass sell out of the area homes and a big drop in city revenue.

I appreciate your consideration in the above, thank you

Mrs. Y.L.Wan

**Eric Friedli - DEIS-Lighting at Sports Fields, Wetlands**

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**From:** "neale weaver" <nealew@msn.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 1/31/2002 1:49 PM  
**Subject:** DEIS-Lighting at Sports Fields, Wetlands

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My main concern is the proposed lighting on the sports fields. I understand that we need more fields and more hours on the fields via lighting but am concerned that the lighting will be very bright and glaring on the condos and the houses that are close to the Park. Those would be from 54th NE to Sand Point Way. If lighting is put in, there should be a concerted effort to not shine them at the neighborhoods and restrict the hours to protect the neighborhoods. I also have concern for the effect of the lighting on the wetlands. I am not an expert but I think there should be additional studies done to determine the real effect. Thank you for including this in your public comment.

Neale Weaver

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L&G2

2  
WDLF1

## Eric Friedli - Magnuson Park playing field plans

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**From:** "E. Webb" <ewebb@u.washington.edu>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/24/2002 9:12 PM  
**Subject:** Magnuson Park playing field plans

---

As a homeowner and long-time resident of View Ridge, I want to register my very strong objection to the proposal to install 11 playing fields with high intensity lights in Magnuson Park. I could see the demonstration lights clearly from all the windows in the front of my house, and what I saw was clear disproof of the environmental impact statement's claim that this lighting would not be visible from houses on the hill. The glare from the baseball field lights would be intense and would shine directly toward us (as those lights definitely did in the demonstration).

I have lived in View Ridge for three decades, during which it was a pleasant, quiet, and peaceful neighborhood, and our house has had a wonderful panoramic view of the lake. The changes proposed would not only bring an enormous increase in traffic, but they would turn our views from beautiful to ugly. This would certainly cause a dramatic drop in residential property values on the hill side as a whole, and since my own house has had a particularly beautiful view, it would be one of the ones that would suffer most. My wife and I put \$175,000 into remodeling our house only 5 years ago. If we had known something like what is proposed was going to happen, we would have moved instead. As it is, if we are driven to move in the future because of these proposed changes, we will have to do so with a lot less money for another house than we would have had if we had left then.

I plead with you to reconsider this dreadful proposal.

Yours truly,  
 Eugene Webb

1  
L&G2

2  
TRAN1  
3  
AES1

4  
SEPA6

## Eric Friedli - Lights at Magnuson Park

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**From:** "Marilyn Webb" <webbmarilyn@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/24/2002 9:25 PM  
**Subject:** Lights at Magnuson Park  
**CC:** <michele.daly@ci.seattle.wa.us>

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I am writing to protest the proposal to put lighted playing fields in Magnuson Park.

My husband and I have lived in View Ridge since 1966. In 1970 we needed a larger house, but we liked the neighborhood so much we bought another only a few blocks away. Both had splendid views of the lake. In 1996 we wanted to improve our living conditions and briefly considered moving again, but decided to remodel our existing home (at considerable expense) because we loved the quiet neighborhood and our view so much. We love our home and hoped to spend the rest of our lives here. But now we are not sure we will want to if the plans for lighted playing fields proceed.

I wrote earlier in opposition to the lights in particular, but now I feel not only worried but also incensed at the absolutely false claims in the environmental impact statement that homes on the hill, like ours, "would have limited or no exposure to direct glare from the sport field lights." This might be true if all the lights to be used were of the "full cut off" type, but the plan for the baseball fields is to use the "shielded conventional lights," and the demonstration showed that those will shine directly into our eyes when we look out our windows.

This proposal would seriously damage our views and reduce the value of our property (and probably cost us all the money we put into improving our home only a few years ago). Please do not destroy what we have so much loved.

Sincerely yours,  
**Marilyn D. Webb**

6911 57th Ave., NE  
 Seattle, WA 98115

1  
 L&G2

2  
 AES1

3  
 SEPA6

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**From:** <Rothkid@aol.com>  
**To:** Eric Friedli  
**Date:** Thursday - January 31, 2002 4:24 PM  
**Subject:** DEIS Magnuson Park  
Mime.822 (1149 bytes) [View](#) [Save As](#)

As property owners whose view to the east includes all of Magnuson Park, we wish to register our objection to the lighting of 11 athletic fields at the park. Even 7 lighted fields will adversely affect our night view with or without fully shielded fixtures.

Modification to the NE 65th Street entrance should include a lighted sidewalk for safe pedestrian access to the park

Edward and Gwendolene Wittmann  
6514 50th Avenue NE

1  
L&G2

2  
PD10

## Eric Friedli - Comments on the Magnuson Sports Field Project and DEIS

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**From:** "Yvonne K. Wolman" <ykwolman@attbi.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/28/2002 2:16 PM  
**Subject:** Comments on the Magnuson Sports Field Project and DEIS

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Eric Friedli  
Planning & Operations Director

Dear Eric,

When we moved to the View Ridge neighborhood in September of 2001, we were surprised and dismayed to learn about the proposed Magnuson Park athletic field project. We chose to move to View Ridge because of the beautiful view of Lake Washington; the peaceful, quiet, and safe feel of the neighborhood; and the natural beauty of the park below. When choosing to live in View Ridge, we were not aware of plans to significantly change the character of the park to a day and nighttime recreational area. We have no objections to a park where recreation, wildlife, and natural beauty work together; however, we feel that the proposed illumination project will destroy the balance of this order by constructing 11 new, synthetic-surfaced athletic fields with a large number (80) of extremely tall (65-85 feet) field lighting towers throughout the park.

We first learned about this project during one of the lighting demonstrations in the park. The glare from the high pole flood lights was clearly visible from both our living room and bedroom windows. The DEIS proposes a total of "640 luminaires" at "1000 watts" each for a total of 640,000 watts of light. Lights are expected to be on every single night until 11:00 pm (from 2.5 to 7 hours per day). The glare from only a few demonstration flood lights was similar to having automobile headlights aimed at our windows. How are we supposed to sleep with 640,000 watts of light shining into our bedrooms until 11:00 pm every night?

The claim of supporters for lit playing fields is that these fields must be illuminated in order to meet the athletic field needs of the children of Seattle. However, it seems almost all of the proposed late nighttime use is for adult athletic leagues. We don't understand why our rights as residents to quiet enjoyment must suffer because adult athletic leagues want to play until 11:00 pm every night.

The DEIS claims that "Based on the existing urbanized environment and the limited magnitude expected for the project, the impact of the project on sky glow evident in the surrounding area would likely be insignificant." Artificial lighting threatens to block our view of the moon, stars, and lake. It is ridiculous to state that the impact of sky glow will be "insignificant" when the parks department plans to turn on 640,000 watts of light until 11:00 pm every night.

The construction of lit tennis courts and baseball fields is even more worrisome than the soccer fields because it seems clear that these sports require significantly more light than soccer and Frisbee. One quarter of the lights will be "shielded conventional lighting" on 75-85 foot poles at two of the largest baseball fields. The outfield lights from these two fields will be high-powered lights aimed directly towards the hillside of the View Ridge neighborhood and the DEIS does NOT include a lesser alternative to reduce the impact of this lighting.

The DEIS talks about the significant negative impact of the sports field lighting on wildlife.

1  
L&G2

2  
L&G2

3  
L&G2

4  
WDLF1

"Studies have shown many species of birds are impacted by artificial lights." "Birds that migrate nocturnally can also be strongly attracted to lights... and once inside a beam of light, become trapped because they are reluctant to fly out into the dark."

There are many scientific studies which confirm the negative impact of night lighting on migratory birds. Birds become blinded by the glare of night lighting and often (in large numbers) crash into windows, walls, floodlights, or even the ground. While the impact on migratory birds is mentioned in the DEIS, no solution is proposed for mitigating the impact of lights from the 11 sports fields. It is important to note that the glare from the two large baseball fields will be very bright and not fully shielded.

The proposed sports field lighting project is an unfair burden to place on the residents of View Ridge. It will be the largest nighttime public park sports field complex in Seattle. There is an average of 2.5 lit fields at 19 other sites in the city, while 11 lit fields are proposed for Magnuson. None of the other lit sites have a large hillside of homes looking down over them. Having 11 lit fields, with expected use every evening of the year, will also cause a significant amount of traffic, noise, and litter. We are very concerned about the effects of the noise because sound travels clearly from the park up to our neighborhood even now. We would not object to the construction of a limited number of playing fields in harmony with the natural beauty of the landscape and wildlife (i.e., NO artificial turf and NO nighttime lighting, and a limited amount of additional paved parking spaces).

To summarize, we strongly object to this project as described in the DEIS. We hope that as Planning & Operations Director you will seriously consider our concerns. This is an extremely important issue to us. Yvonne has talked to you over the phone about this issue in the past, and we look forward to hearing your response to our comments.

Sincerely,

Yvonne & Alec Wolman  
Feel free to contact us if you have any questions:  
alec.wolman@attbi.com  
ykwolman@attbi.com

**Eric Friedli - Magnuson Park/Sand Point lighting**

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**From:** "barry ziker" <teamz8@attbi.com>  
**To:** <eric.friedli@ci.seattle.wa.us>  
**Date:** 2/15/2002 8:29 PM  
**Subject:** Magnuson Park/Sand Point lighting

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Mr. Friedli,

I am a resident of View Ridge, and equally important, I have been a soccer coach for the last seven years. I have three kids who play soccer and fully support having playing fields at Magnuson Park.

BUT, I have a very serious problem with the lighting issue on many fronts, including impacts to local residents who don't want to feel like they live next door to Safeco field, noise and traffic at late hours, related safety concerns for my kids in connection with the increased usage at last hours.

I have no problem with LIMITED use of lighting at SOME of the fields during REASONABLE hours. Any proposal to have fields lit up all or even most of the time, and absolutely anything that keeps lights on until 11:00 pm is ludicrous. This is a residential neighborhood, and while it's easy to dismiss these kinds of complaints as a NIMBY phenomenon, frequent late-night lighting is absolutely inconsistent with one of Seattle's older residential neighborhoods.

PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW FREQUENT OR LATE-NIGHT LIGHTING OF FIELDS AT MAGNUSON PARK.

Thanks very much for your attention.

Sincerely,

Barry Ziker  
6631-57th Avenue NE  
Seattle

1  
L&G2  
TRAN1  
NOI1  
PSU1

2  
S/O3